

DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

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PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE DETAILS ARMS STANCE

PM161740 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "The Time Has Come for Specific Action" -- uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Text] Never before has life raised with such persistence the question of the responsibility of governments, political parties, and their figures before history. M.S. Gorbachev's report to the CPSU Central Committee Plenum that has just been held, notes "international development has reached a line that cannot be crossed without making supremely responsible decisions aimed at putting an end to the arms race and stopping the slide toward war. These decisions cannot be postponed without the risk of losing control of dangerous processes that threaten the very existence of mankind. The curbing of the forces of militarism and war and the ensuring of lasting peace and reliable security are the fundamental problem of our time."

I.

The USSR has never begun and will never begin a war. The guarantee of that is the very social nature of the Soviet State and the tremendous creative plans that our country is elaborating and implementing. It must be clear to every sensible person that the primary precondition for the implementation of such plans is lasting peace. The Soviet State embodies its will for peace in constructive actions that do not admit contradictory interpretations. The Soviet Union places its economic and defensive might on the side of the struggle for peace.

The historical dispute between socialism and capitalism must not, it is our conviction, be resolved by force of arms. The creation of new means of destruction will not lead to the resolution of the tasks now facing the world community. The USSR and its allies call on the United States and its NATO partners to rise above the existing disagreements. The time has come to rethink accustomed concepts and to abandon "cold war" stereotypes, which have now become extremely dangerous.

In the nuclear missile age peace cannot be based only on military force, on the constant buildup of mountains of weapons. What is needed is a different, bold view of things that accords with the new realities in both the military and the political spheres.

The course of turning peoples and countries against one another is alien to the Soviet State. The idea that certain provocateurs persistently attempt to suggest to the Western public -- the idea that the USSR is seeking to drive a "wedge" between West Europe and the United States -- is groundless and absurd. In reality, we proceed from the premise that the problems of the modern world are so complex and interwoven, they can be resolved only by the common efforts of all states and peoples interested in the preservation of peace. No one nowadays can remain aloof from the struggle against the threat of nuclear war. Active political dialogue between governments, political parties, and social forces and movements that value the cause of international security is especially necessary now. The Soviet Union is open to cooperation with everyone who wants such mutual understanding and collaboration.

The CPSU and the Soviet State possess not only the political will for broad international cooperation, but also an awareness of the great responsibility incumbent on our country. It is not we who are to blame for the fact that mankind was plunged into the fateful circle of the arms race. The USSR has never initiated the production of instruments of death. The Land of the Soviets has existed for 68 years -- 68 years of tireless struggle to rid the peoples of the heavy burden of military spending and of the threat of war.

True to Leninist traditions of foreign policy, since World War II the Soviet Union has submitted over 100 specific proposals aimed at strengthening peace and preventing, limiting, and reducing the arms race, especially the nuclear missile arms race. Most of these initiatives, which are long-term in character, retain their validity, including the proposal on the fundamental question: general and complete disarmament. Now that stormclouds of war are gathering over the planet, the USSR is multiplying its efforts to prevent this danger.

II.

The Soviet Union is prepared for radical reductions in nuclear weapons provided that there is a total ban on space strike arms. This formulation of the question agrees with the January accord between the USSR and U.S. foreign ministers.

The new Soviet initiative was not born in a vacuum. Despite all of Washington's attempts to disrupt and tear the fabric of detente, a great deal of what has been achieved continues to be preserved. Military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States is preserved. The unlimited-duration treaty between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of ABM systems continues to operate. The SALT II treaty is being observed in practice. The treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons and the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear tests in the three environments are in operation. These limitations are exerting their positive influence. However, it is clear that if the United States implements its plans for taking weapons into space, not only will these limitations lose their effectiveness [utratyat svoyu deystvennost], but a new round of the arms race -- involving space strike arms -- will be begun.

While striving to involve all countries in the process of creating a system of lasting international security, our country is at the same time unilaterally adopting measures aimed at preserving peace and ending the arms race.

In 1982, the USSR adopted a unilateral commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and urged the United States to follow this example. Nobody must have any doubt: Our country will not be the first to take weapons into space. The USSR unilaterally suspended further siting of its medium-range missiles and implementation of other counter-measures in Europe and urged the United States to reciprocate. As of 6 August 1985, the USSR decided to unilaterally halt any nuclear explosions and urged the United States to reciprocate. This appeal is also addressed to the other nuclear powers, of course.

Naturally such unilateral steps cannot be taken as being of unlimited duration if the other side evades the adoption of the proposals we have submitted and continues the arms race. But, they could be of unlimited duration if the United States was to follow the Soviet example.

The peoples have a right to demand of other countries, primarily the United States, the adoption of radical measures to reduce and ultimately eliminate nuclear weapons. The new Soviet proposals spelled out by M.S. Gorbachev during his visit to France are in keeping with precisely this objective.

FIRST, THE SOVIET UNION PUT TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT A PROPOSAL THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED ON TOTALLY BANNING SPACE STRIKE ARMS FOR BOTH SIDES AND RADICALLY REDUCING, BY 50 PERCENT, THEIR NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH CAN REACH EACH OTHER'S TERRITORY. The USSR proposes that the total number of USSR and U.S. nuclear means which can reach each other's territory would be equal to 1,250 and 1,680 respectively; that is, it agrees to the United States having a slight preponderance in terms of delivery vehicles.

The USSR is prepared to agree to this while bearing in mind that, following a 50 percent reduction in nuclear weapons delivery vehicles, both sides would have an equal number of nuclear charges -- 6,000 each -- and approximate strategic equilibrium would thereby be ensured. The Soviet delegation in Geneva has submitted specific proposals on this question.

This proposal is aimed at practically resolving the objectives of the Geneva talks agreed on by the USSR and the United States: not only to end the nuclear arms race, but to sharply reduce the level of such arms and simultaneously avert an arms race in space. The implementation of this measure is in keeping with the vital interests of all states since it would radically strengthen strategic stability and mutual trust.

It is perfectly obvious that a halving of the USSR and U.S. nuclear missile means capable of reaching each other's territory is possible only given agreement on the total prohibition of space strike arms. This is an honest and just approach. The USSR is prepared to conduct negotiations, but not on space weapons, not on precisely which kinds of these weapons will be sited in space, but on its nonmilitarization. In Geneva, the Soviet Union has proposed that agreement be reached on banning the development [sozdaniye], including scientific research work; testing; and deployment [razvertyvaniye] of space strike arms. Of course it is not the fundamental sciences that are meant here; that kind of research is being conducted and obviously will be conducted. The greatest danger is posed precisely by the development projects [razrabotki] which are being carried out in the United States in line with military department assignments and contracts; moreover, at a stage when mockups, experimental samples, and prototypes are bound to appear and field proving and testing [otrabotki i ispytaniya] outside the laboratory is bound to be carried out.

THE SECOND SOVIET PROPOSAL CONCERNS MEDIUM-RANGE NUCLEAR MEANS IN EUROPE. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE AN ACCORD ON THEIR SWIFTEST MUTUAL REDUCTION, THE USSR DEEMS IT POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE AN APPROPRIATE ACCORD SEPARATELY, WITHOUT A DIRECT LINK WITH THE PROBLEM OF SPACE AND STRATEGIC ARMS. This approach may prove to be practical.

The USSR's stance on the question of the position of French and British nuclear potential in the European balance of forces was clarified. This potential is growing fast and it has to be taken into account. It was pointed out on the French side that France's nuclear forces are not subject to discussion without its participation. The Soviet Union is prepared for direct discussions with France just like, of course, with Britain. Here the Soviet Union will most attentively take into account the interests of French and British security.

THIRD. ADDRESSING THE FRESH PARLIAMENTARIANS, M.S. GORBACHEV RECALLED THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS DECLARED A MORATORIUM ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES IN EUROPE. HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE NUMBER OF SS-20 MISSILES WHICH THE SOVIET UNION HAS ON COMBAT STANDBY IN THE EUROPEAN ZONE NOW STANDS AT 243 UNITS. THIS MEANS IT IS EXACTLY EQUAL TO THE LEVEL IN JUNE 1984, WHEN THE ADDITIONAL DEPLOYMENT OF SOVIET MISSILES BEGAN IN RESPONSE TO THE INSTALLATION OF U.S. MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES IN EUROPE. THE SS-20 MISSILES THAT WERE DEPLOYED IN ADDITION HAVE AT PRESENT BEEN TAKEN OFF COMBAT STANDBY, WHILE STATIONARY INSTALLATIONS FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF THESE MISSILES WILL BE DISMANTLED WITHIN THE NEXT 2 MONTHS. THIS IS VERIFIABLE. BUT THE USSR'S COUNTERMEASURES WITH REGARD TO THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES ITSELF REMAIN IN FORCE.

The Soviet side clarified the meaning attached to the term "European zone" in this instance: This is the zone in which missiles capable of striking targets on West European territory are deployed and it extends beyond the Urals to the 80th meridian.

The Soviet Union has withdrawn the SS-5 missiles from service and is continuing the withdrawal of SS-4 missiles from service. This means that overall, the number of missile delivery vehicles in the USSR's European zone is now significantly lower than it was 10 and even 15 years ago. In limiting itself in this way, the Soviet Union is guided by the broad interests of European security. Europe is now entitled to expect a U.S. step in response: the cessation of further deployment of its medium-range missiles on the European Continent.

An agreement banning the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike weapons in near-earth space would open the way for broad international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of space and a Soviet proposal on this has already been submitted to the United Nations. Instead of "star wars" plans, a program for "star peace" benefiting all mankind would be implemented.

The implementation of the program put forward by the Soviet Union would enable mankind to advance toward the implementation of its cherished goal: the banning and total elimination of nuclear weapons and deliverance from the threat of a nuclear missile war.

III.

Only forces interested in maintaining international tension can portray the peace initiatives proposed by the Soviet Union as "propaganda." These initiatives have aroused a tremendous international response. The broadest circles of the world public are describing them as some of the most radical and significant Soviet initiatives. Many people recognize that any discussion in the world on the problem of disarmament is now focused primarily on the new Soviet initiatives.

This is obviously not to the liking of some people in the United States; not only there. Indeed! After all, yet another breach has appeared in the "iron curtain" of deception with which imperialist circles have been and still are diligently surrounding the USSR's policy. The truth about the peace-loving intentions of the CPSU and the Soviet State is becoming known to millions of people in Western countries who are importunately assured of the existence of a "Soviet military threat." The opponents of international cooperation feel that the foundations of their arms race policy are beginning to crack. Some people in the United States are even overcome with fear at the thought that the accord which the world's peoples are so eagerly awaiting could be reached at the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva.

The Soviet Union is striving for just such a turnaround.

Nonetheless, certain circles in the United States and other NATO countries that have linked themselves to the arms race policy are not slackening their attempts to sow distrust in the new Soviet peace initiatives. But truth is on the side of sober-minded forces.

Undoubtedly, stopping the nuclear arms race; subsequently, considerably reducing nuclear arms; and preventing the militarization of space would seriously reduce tension worldwide: first and foremost, on the European Continent.

In particular, in Europe the Soviet Union is proposing an entire series of measures aimed at furthering the process of reducing the level of military confrontation. There is a possibility of starting to reduce the conventional armed forces and arms of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in central Europe commencing with a reduction of Soviet and U.S. Armed Forces. Our country is prepared to do everything incumbent on it to create [sozdaniye] a chemical weapons-free zone in the center of Europe. The Soviet Union proposes the elaboration of an international agreement, similar to the nonproliferation treaty, on the nonproliferation of chemical weapons with a view to entirely banning them and eliminating stockpiles of them in the future.

The Soviet Union supports the idea of creating nuclear-free zones in northern Europe and the Balkans and the proposal to create a corridor free from nuclear weapons on both sides of the line separating the two military-political groupings. The USSR believes that countries which do not possess nuclear weapons or have them on their territory have a right to reliable guarantees in international law of their security and [guarantees] that nuclear weapons will not be used against them.

At the Stockholm conference, where the outlines of an accord on concretizing the principle of the nonuse of force and making it as effective as possible are being drawn up, the Soviet Union supports the adoption of certain confidence-building measures in the military sphere, including the proposal that there be reciprocal exchanges of the annual plans for certain types of military activity.

The USSR, together with its allies, advocates overcoming the division of Europe into opposing groupings in the more or less foreseeable future. But even under conditions of the existence of the two blocs, it is possible to create a "modus vivendi" which would blunt the acuteness of recent confrontation. For instance, there is no lifetime taboo on the possibility of establishing contacts between the Warsaw Pact and NATO as organizations.

The creation of an atmosphere of security and confidence on the European Continent would make it possible to develop East-West economic ties more widely and intensively and to pool the European countries' efforts in maintaining and improving the environment and expanding the flow of information on each other's life, cultural exchanges, and human contacts. The establishment of more businesslike relations between CEMA and the EEC would also be useful. And to the extent that the EEC countries act as a "political unit," common ground with them can also be sought on specific international problems.

The significance of the measures proposed by the Soviet Union goes far beyond the bounds of the European Continent. The USSR's radical proposals are actively supported by supporters of peace in all countries. Peoples everywhere are demanding from their governments real steps leading to an easing of tension and the surmounting of the present stage of confrontation on the entire planet.

REAGAN USES 'CLEVER TRICKS' TO EXPLAIN SDI

LD161743 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1655 GMT 16 Oct 85

["'Star Wars' Repackaged" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Oct (TASS) -- TASS observer Vladimir Matyash writes:

The head of the White House has stated that "certain forces" have distorted the essence of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) by characterizing it as a type of "star wars" program. Speaking in Boise (Idaho), he asserted that his "initiative," which is known to be directed at the deployment [razvertyvaniye] of strike weapons systems in space, "is highly moral and corresponds to the basic interests of the United States and its allies" and even "to the cause of peace." In his words, SDI should be called the "Strategic Defense Shield" or "Strategic Space Shield..." [TASS ellipsis]

A legitimate question arises: Is the essence of SDI altered even to the slightest degree as a result of the verbal rope-walking resorted to by the U.S. President? The answer is clear: There is nothing defensive about SDI; an offensive system is being created which is directed at stationing weapons in space which can be put into operation against objects in space and also from space against ground objects. That is the "star wars" concept in action and one cannot get away from this fact by any clever tricks.

At the same time, Reagan stated that SDI will not be a "subject of bargaining" at the upcoming Soviet-American summit talks; absolutely ignoring the indisputable fact that it is a question not of bargaining, but of a sensible decision aimed at not permitting the creation [sozdaniye] of a new class of weapons which will give rise to a fresh round of the armaments race -- an even more dangerous round that will have unpredictable consequences.

Thus giving a militarist tone to U.S. policy, the White House is opposing the agreement proposed by the Soviet Union on the nonmilitarization of space, that is, on the non-stationing of any types of weapons in space. This militarist course reflects the interests of the military-industrial complex which keeps tirelessly reiterating that strike weapons should be put into space.

The USSR's principled position is to halt this senseless process, which may lead to dire consequences, and to fulfill mankind's mandate to keep space peaceful.

WEINBERGER CITED ON MILITARY, NUCLEAR POLICY, SDI

LD170804 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1430 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Washington, 16 Oct (TASS) -- The United States intends to continue supplying wide-ranging military aid to such countries as Thailand and South Korea, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has stated in the course of a news conference which was relayed to the countries of Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin through the USIA "Worldnet" television system. The secretary did not conceal his annoyance at the New Zealand government's position, which bans ships carrying nuclear weapons on board from calling at the country's ports. Asserting that the presence of U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons on board in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean "strengthens the security" of the region's countries, the chief of the U.S. military department let it be understood unambiguously that Washington intends to continue to pressure the New Zealand Government with the aim of forcing it to renounce its antinuclear policy. "If New Zealand believes that it can conduct such a policy, then the United States is also entitled to evaluate its requirements in the sphere of defense," C. Weinberger stated.

In the course of the news conference, the chief of the American military department unrestrainedly publicized the notorious American 'Strategic Defense Initiative,' attempting to present it as a type of "panacea" against the threat of nuclear war. Asserting that the program, which has been thought up in Washington, for the creation of a wide-ranging system of antimissile defense with space-based elements "threatens no one," the Pentagon chief stressed that the United States was "totally resolved to continue its research" on the "star wars" program which is aimed at creating offensive space armaments.

CEMA CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COOPERATION SESSION OPENS

AU162054 Sofia BTA in English 1922 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Varna, October 16 (BTA) -- The 66th session of the Standing Committee of the CMEA for Cooperation in the Field of the Chemical industry was opened here today. It is attended by delegations from Bulgaria, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Hungary and Czechoslovakia as well as Yugoslavia.

Mr. Georgi Pankov, minister of the chemical industry of Bulgaria, read a message of greeting by Mr. Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, to the participants. The head of the Bulgarian Government stressed the importance of the deepening of multilateral cooperation, specialization and joint production of chemical products and articles.

The delegations will coordinate the plans for the period up to 1990 and will outline measures for the joint obtaining and exchanging new products and articles of the chemical industry.

BALTIC SEA DRILLING YIELDS 'HIGH QUALITY' OIL

LD161003 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0842 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow, 16 Oct (TASS) -- During drilling of a further well in the Baltic Sea, from a platform belonging to the joint GDR, Polish People's Republic, and USSR organization, "PLTIK", oil and gas emerged. This is reported in correspondence from Warsaw published in today's PRAVDA. According to specialists' estimates, the newly discovered oil is of high quality. The 5 years of prospecting carried out by the international collective "Petrobaltika" on the Polish and Soviet shelf allow for the conclusion that this is a region with a commercially viable yield of oil, the correspondence points out.

LD161713 Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 16 Oct 85

Yet the aims set in the declaration have not been achieved in full so far. The United Nations cannot put up with the fact that the peoples of nearly twenty colonial and dependent territories are yet deprived of their legitimate right to freedom and independence. Wishing to preserve their domination, the imperialist powers are forcing on these territories various neo-colonial statuses, turning them into their military-strategic strongpoints and bridgeheads for aggression. A striking example of that is the annexationist actions vis-a-vis the trust territory of the Pacific Islands.

In South Africa, the racist Pretoria regime backed by its Western patrons is trying to perpetuate a colonialist-racist system. Flouting the decisions of the United Nations organisation and the demands of world public, the racists of the Republic of South Africa are pursuing the criminal apartheid policy, opposing the granting of independence to the people of Namibia, launching acts of aggression against the neighbour African countries.

The policy of colonialism in any of its forms and manifestations, including racism and apartheid, is incompatible with the U.N. Charter and the declaration on decolonisation. The conscience of honest people the world over cannot put up with the preservation of seats of colonialism on our planet.

It is the duty of the United Nations Organisation to take urgent measures to implement the declaration in full, so that all colonial peoples and trust territories should gain genuine political and economic independence, take a worthy place in the international community of states.

It is the duty of the United Nations organisation to contribute in every way to accelerating the process of decolonisation in the economic relations on a fair and democratic basis. The United Nations organisation should raise its voice against the exploitation of the developing countries by the transnational monopolies, plunder of their natural resources and their stifling by the noose of debts, and support their actions against "cultural", "information" and other forms of neo-colonialism.

Implementation of these important tasks depends in a decisive measure on progress in strengthening universal peace and international security, putting an end to the ruinous arms race, returning to a policy of relaxation of international tension.

The Soviet Union will further make every effort in the struggle for a complete and steadfast implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to the colonial countries and peoples and actively contribute to the U.N. activities in the field of ultimate elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

PRAVDA REVIEW OF WEEK'S INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PM141343 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[Igor Melnikov "International Review"]

[Text] Generator of Detente

The week which has elapsed since M.S. Gorbachev's visit to France seemingly should have gradually moderated the interest in that event. But that has not happened. On the contrary, the greater the number of days separating us from the Soviet initiatives heard aloud in Paris, the broader and deeper their influence on the course of international life.

This influence is beneficial, making it possible to assert that our country has been and remains the architect and erector of detente. As the latest CPSU Central Committee Politburo session stated, the major proposals put forward by the Soviet Union aimed at preventing the militarization of space, curbing the race in nuclear and other arms, and developing fruitful international cooperation in Europe and the world as a whole, convincingly demonstrated yet again our state's peace-loving foreign policy course.

The Soviet Union made it clearly understood that peace on earth can be preserved by deeds and more deeds; that it is making specific steps on this path. In particular, the proposal addressed to the United States for a complete ban on space strike weapons by both sides and a 50 percent reduction of the nuclear armaments which can reach each other's territory is just such a step. This is a reliable framework for future agreements and unconnected with the words, verging on demagoguery, which some major Western politicians are prepared to utter.

Foreign observers have not failed to note that the proposals made public in Paris are directly tailored for the practical solution of the tasks set before the Geneva talks: not only halting the arms race, but also sharply reducing the level of armaments and at the same time preventing the militarization of space. The Soviet Union's expressed readiness to conclude an individual agreement on nuclear weapons in Europe and its decision to unilaterally reduce the number of SS-20 missiles in the European zone were also assessed at their worth.

The interest in the Soviet proposals is so great that the campaign launched by the press obedient to Washington and to NATO ruling circles to show the "disillusionment" which has allegedly once more gripped Western political circles has noticeably failed. On the other hand, those same mass media have had to reflect the confusion among NATO leading circles. For instance, they are upset by the very lively response encountered in Belgium and the Netherlands by the Soviet statement that the number of SS-20 missiles, despite the calumny of NATO propaganda, has not increased. And moreover, that our country is prepared to embark on a reduction of the number of these missiles in the European zone.

People in Washington looked sourly at the television screen when a CBS correspondent reported from Amsterdam: "Protests are mounting here against the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in the Netherlands. Today the number of protesters has exceeded all expectations and people are far more confident that they can stop the U.S. missiles. One reason is Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on the reduction of the number of Soviet SS-20 missiles in operational readiness."

The backstage struggle unleashed around the convening of a meeting of the representatives of a number of Western countries is also evidence of conclusion.

Initially, the White House had decided to gather the leaders of the "big seven" -- it believed it would be easier to enlist support for its course in a narrow circle. But the result was discomfiture: On the one hand, France rejected the meeting and on the other, the minor NATO countries, once again "overlooked" by their "senior partner," were offended. Ultimately, it was decided to convene an emergency NATO session in Brussels 15 October at foreign minister level for consultations before the November meeting between the CPSU Central Committee general secretary and the U.S. President in Geneva.

Information on the White House incumbent's reaction to the recent Soviet peace initiatives is so far quite meager. But he has stated that the United States is treating them with attention and is studying them. NATO Secretary General Carrington's recent visit to the U.S. capital sheds some light on the reaction of Washington and NATO. After meeting with admiration leaders here he stated that he "welcomed" the USSR's new proposals in the nuclear arms reduction field and also did not personally believe that the Soviet proposal "on individual talks with Britain and France is merely an attempt to split the West."

In general, it should be noted that one of the Western press' dominant themes in recent days has been the powerful impetus given to the growth of the West Europeans' self-awareness by the Soviet visit to France. The Soviet Union, the Paris newspaper LIBERATION writes, has suggested to the old World that it should not wait for permission from the White House to resume the detente process if the United States feigns deafness. The invitation to the West European countries to take part in bilateral dialogue, the newspaper believes, is a great success for the USSR's foreign policy.

The Soviet generator of detente and peace initiatives is working increasingly fruitfully. The West, and primarily Europe, cannot fail to react to this fact.

A Little More Terrible than Hell

Today perhaps you will not find many overt troubadours of the "cold war" among West European politicians. But Franz-Josef Strauss, the "inveterate" of the West German right-wingers, is invariably among this cohort. Now, he has blurted out that the halving of U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear systems "would reinforce still further the nuclear imbalance in the USSR's favor." A statement of incredible irresponsibility!

Indeed, lacking arguments, other champions of a policy of strength are also behaving increasingly "incredibly." For instance, what is the worth in this respect of the zeal of R. McFarlane, the U.S. President's national security aide? Evidently urged on by the lobbyists of the military-industrial complex, he recently set about depicting the Soviet proposals as allegedly unfair to the United States and giving no grounds for future agreements. Why? Because these proposals conceal the USSR's desire to force the Americans to abandon the SDI project and at the same time to continue its own analogous program.

Here he has not even considered elementary logic, because it is clear even to a child that were this in fact the case, it would be all the more necessary to immediately accept the Soviet proposals to ban any deployment [razvertyvaniye] of weapons in space. But no, for McFarlane this step means a step into the abyss -- at any rate figuratively -- the abyss of the anger of the bosses of the military-industrial complex who have no intention of depriving some U.S. concerns of their multibillion dollar orders and profits guaranteed by the SDI project through the start of the 21st century; the abyss of the anger of the Pentagon military, which would otherwise have to bury the idea of achieving military superiority. To all appearances these "abysses" are more terrible than hell for McFarlane and his colleagues.

Some people in the U.S. Administration are also turning away from the proposal to halve the number of strategic nuclear armaments capable of reaching the territories of the United States and the USSR. Matters are presented as though the Pershing II and cruise missiles, including sea-launched missiles, deployed in the immediate vicinity of our borders and the aircraft carrier nuclear weapons systems have nothing to do with strategic equalization.

Such are the zigzags of militarist logic. They close their eyes to the fact that the Pershing II and cruise missiles transferred to Europe create a direct threat to our territory and that they are essentially offensive strategic weapons with respect to the USSR. At the same time, it is clear to one and all that the Soviet SS-20 missiles are not strategic as far as the United States is concerned because they do not threaten its territory.

Looking Ahead to the Meeting

On whatever plane the problems of security and disarmament are examined today, there is invariably talk of the forthcoming November meeting between the Soviet and U.S. leaders in Geneva.

Here are the revelations made in connection with the meeting by one influential and by no means left-wing U.S. newspaper: "The fact that the hardliners in the defense department are awaiting the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting with fear and loathing is scarcely anything new. They have always been opposed to arms control agreements and of course, to summit meetings. The difference this time is that trembling at the prospect of the meeting has taken hold of the White House, the National Security Council, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the State Department; not without cause."

The reason they are trembling, the newspaper believes, is the meeting's agenda, which contains just one basic theme: arms control. And, the article says, if Reagan adheres to the "star wars" program, he will be held up to shame -- not only by the Russians. The success of the summit meeting, the newspaper sums up, depends on Reagan's readiness to make concessions on the "star wars" program.

The U.S. press is now writing that "the most the President can hope for at the summit meeting is a draw," U.S. journalists could be forgiven their predilection for sporting terminology if it did not distort the aim of the summit contacts. The Soviet side is by no means going to the Geneva meeting for the sake of a propaganda gain. It is convinced that the interest in its success should be mutual, that the attention of those taking part should unfailingly be focused on the most important problem of the present day -- preventing the arms race in space and halting it on earth, limiting and reducing nuclear arms, and consolidating strategic stability.

That is the point of the Geneva meeting. If this fundamental condition is observed, what importance could be attached to the "pinstriped suit" which the President intends to wear or to what the U.S. press again calls his "old-fashioned and simple" manner in conversation?

Something else puts us on guard. For instance, the White House's unceasing praise for the "star wars" plan. Although this militarist program leads only to the growth of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, the President pronounced recently: "The implementation of this program must continue. It will continue. It is not a means of extracting concessions at talks, we will continue to advance along that path."

But, you may ask, would it not be better to continue the path of detente and mutually acceptable accords on the basis of parity and equal security? This activity has to its undisputed credit the 1963 Moscow treaty on banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, outer space, and under water, the 1968 treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems and the SALT I agreement signed in 1972, and finally the 1979 SALT II treaty. Thus, there has been at least some redemption of the sins of U.S. policy of recent years which have torpedoed the very laboriously created structure of negotiations which helped to strengthen strategic stability in the world.

Lasting Peace for the Near East

The leader of the Libyan revolution, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, was in Moscow this week on an official friendly visit. The summit talks continued for 2 days in the Kremlin. During the talks there was a useful and constructive exchange of opinions on a wide spectrum of problems of the present international situation.

The Moscow dialogue again focused attention on the knot of Near East problems; an extraordinarily painful knot and moreover, one which is being deliberately tightened by U.S. imperialism with the aid of its "strategic partner," Israel. The latter is no longer restricting itself to aggressive actions against neighboring states. Flouting the norms of international law, it has made a piratical attack on the Tunisian capital.

Under the conditions of such flagrant attacks by Israel and the activation of its transatlantic patrons' attempts to replace the real search for peace in the Near East with various versions of separate deals, special importance attaches to the question of the Arab countries' unity of actions. Yet Washington is trying to exploit the weak links which have recently appeared in the Arab world. Gambling on the Amman agreement concluded this February whose aim is to create some kind of Jordanian-Palestinian confederate union, the United States is steering its former line toward undermining and then, directly dealing with the Palestine resistance movement. Having set a whole series of traps to lure the Arabs states into the web of separate deals (promises of increased financial and military aid, pledges to "bring pressure to bear" on Israel, and so forth), Washington is demanding as payment for these "expenses" that the possibility of the creation of an independent Palestinian state be ruled out and is urging refusal to convene an international conference on the Near East with the USSR's participation. Thus, the U.S. Administration hopes it will have more chances of recarranging the political map of the Near East to its own imperialist style.

Why, the question arises, does Washington fear a representative conference as the Devil fears incense? The answer is simple: If it were convened, the Arabs would not be left one to one with Israel and the United States, but could really seek a fair and honest solution by relying on their collective strength and the support of their true friends.

The Soviet Union is not seeking any one-sided advantages in an international conference. It sees in it a sensible and effective way of putting an end to the many years' of war in the Near East and establishing lasting peace there. It proposes to achieve this without further bloodshed, without intrigues and backstage deals struck by some people behind the backs of others, with a due consideration for the lawful interests of all interested sides without exception.

This fundamental position of our country has been fully confirmed at the Soviet-Libyan talks. It accords with the cause of establishing just peace in the Near East.

GROMYKO RECEIVES U.S. CONGRESSMEN IN KREMLIN

LD162018 Moscow in English 1906 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, received today in the Kremlin a group of American congressmen lead by Bill Nelson, chairman of the Subcommittee on Space Science and Applications of the Committee on Science and Technology of the U.S. House of Representatives. Present at the meeting were also American astronauts Tomas Stafford and Donald Slayton who participated in 1975 in the joint Soviet-American Soyuz-Apollo space flight.

The sides discussed mainly various aspects of peaceful cooperation in outer space.

Andrey Gromyko noted that outer space had already become habitable. Soviet cosmonauts proved that man can stay in outer space for many months, work there, render it habitable.

The broadening of international cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space gives huge benefits and promises still bigger (?benefits). But it cannot be allowed that the spreading of the arms race to outer space should turn it into a source of danger threatening terrestrial civilization.

It has been exphasized that USSR-USA cooperation in peaceful and exploration [as received] of outer space is possible if there is no parallel program of militarization of outer space. One cannot imagine such a situation when the star wars program and joint peaceful experiments could be carried out at the same time. Cooperation in such conditions would be a screen, a cover up for plans of militarization of the near earth space.

The Soviet Union consistently advocates development of international cooperation not only on earth but also beyond it. The evidence of that is the concrete Soviet proposals, including those which were put forward within the U.N. framework.

The USSR repeatedly put forward proposals at a number of U.N. General Assembly sessions. The 40th General Assembly session is now discussing the question "on international cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space in conditions of its non-militarization", which was put on the agenda on the initiative of the Soviet Union. The USSR also advocates formation of a world space organization for cooperation in peaceful exploration of outer space to be carried out.

It should be noted that the overwhelming majority of the U.N. member states declare in support of these proposals but the United States is not among them.

Andrey Gromyko analysed the causes of the present-day tension in the world, pointing to the dangerous direction of practical actions of the American Administration.

Among the aims of its policy is maintaining international tensions in a bid to justify the creation of ever new types of mass destruction weapons, militarization of outer space. [sentence as received] The international development has now approached such a point when highly responsible decisions need to be taken, when it is necessary to put a limit to the arms race, to stop the sliding towards war. It is by these noble aspirations that the Soviet Union is guided in its actions in the international scene.

The coming November meeting in Geneva between General Scretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan can be of great significance for the cause of peace. The Soviet Union is most seriously preparing for the meeting and is doing the utmost to see to it that its results should justify the hopes of the peoples. The results of the meeting will certainly depend not only on the Soviet but also on the American side.

During the frank exchange of opinions the American congressmen declared for improvement of Soviet-American relations and peaceful cooperation in outer space. They expressed the hope that the meeting of the leaders of the USSR and the USA would lead to improvement of the relations between the two countries and recovery of the situation in the world as a whole.

The American participants in the meeting thanked Andrey Gromyko for the conversation and the attention accorded to them.

Taking part in the meeting from the Soviet side were Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Tengiz Menteshashvili, deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Academicians Yevgeniy Velikhov and Vladimirov Kotelnikov, crew members of the Soyuz-Apollo flight, pilot cosmonauts of the USSR Valeriy Kubasov and Alexey Leonov, member of the Collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, from the American side -- U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Arthur Hartman.

TASS ANALYST ON NEW USIA BROADCASTS TO W. EUROPE

LD161018 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 15 Oct 85

["Radio Drug 'Voice of America'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 15 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Alarmed by the mounting anti-American sentiments in Western Europe, especially among young people, the Washington administration has ordered that round-the-clock special broadcasts beamed to Western Europe be started through the "Voice of America" radio station as of tomorrow. This propaganda political campaign is launched in order to dispell among West European youth "incorrect ideas" of America, said Charles Wick, director of the official U.S. Information Agency. It is planned to broadcast, above all, specially prepared statements by the U.S. President, the U.S. secretary of state and other high ranking officials which are of a purely propaganda character and embellish Washington's militaristic policy.

Why is it necessary for the USA to start such unusual measures towards its NATO allies and why has it become necessary to [words indistinct] policy of the United States, if as the U.S. officials claim, it fully accords with the interests of the "free world"? The point is that this policy is, in real fact, in conflict with the interests of the peoples of Western Europe, [words indistinct] borned out by the facts.

In the first place, the West Europeans are deeply alarmed over the dangerous militaristic policy of the current administration as a result of which Western Europe has been turned into an arena of a nuclear action. Instead of lowering the level of that confrontation, Washington is building it up, by unfolding the "star wars" programs, i.e. starting a militarization of outer space.

There are nearly 13 million jobless, mostly young people, in the "Common Market" countries. This is almost one and a half times as many as in the United States itself. Will the "Voice of America" tell them that the jobless in Western Europe are in a considerable measure victims of the economic and banking policy of the USA, of the current Washington administration's protectionist measures? But if the USA deprives the West Europeans of the right to security, of the right to guaranteed jobs to satisfy the imperial ambitions of the current U.S. leaders, what then remains to them from the so-called "human rights"?

An Americanization of the mentality of the West Europeans, i.e. forcing on them the official U.S. propaganda is designed to [remainder of the item indistinct].

LD150425 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2004 GMT 14 Oct 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

At a reception given in Bush's honor, Zhao Ziyang, the premier of the State Council, said in the past few years Chinese-American relations has been very stable, and bilateral contacts and cooperation in many areas had expanded and deepened markedly.

At the same time, according to him, there exist obstacles and problems in the relations between the United States and the PRC.

We still have to do a great many things, Bush stated in reply. Prior to his departure to Beijing, the U.S. vice president stated more than once that he is not expecting any special concrete results from this visit.

Zhao Ziyang Comments on Summit

OW161439 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1149 GMT 16 Oct 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush is on a visit to China.

It is reported that during talks between Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State council, and Bush, there was an exchange of views on international problems and questions of bilateral relations.

In particular the sides discussed the upcoming summit meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and President Reagan. Zhao Ziyang stated that China welcomed the upcoming meeting and hoped that agreement on disarmament, directed at easing the international atmosphere, is reached during the serious talks. He stressed that the Chinese side is in favor of rapid termination of the continuous escalation of the arms race.

IZVESTIYA Reports on Tolkunov Zhejiang Tour

PM161406 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Unnamed TASS correspondent report: "Trip Continues"]

[Text] Beijing, 15 Oct -- A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union, which is touring China, has visited Zhejiang province (East China).

The delegation members met with leadership of the provincial People's Congress, saw the sights in Hangzhou, the provincial administrative center, and visited industrial enterprises.

Li Fengping, chairman of the People's Congress Standing Committee, told the Soviet delegation members about the economic and social building in progress in the province.

PRC DELEGATION OF STATISTICIANS VISIT 6-14 OCT

LD150855 Moscow IZVETIYA in Russian 16 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 5

["Exchange of Opinions" -- TASS headline]

[Text] A delegation of statisticians from the PRC led by Zhang Sai, head of the PRC State Statistical Bureau, was in the USSR from 6-14 October at the invitation of the USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA].

An exchange of opinions took place on work experience regarding the most important questions of the activity of the USSR and PRC statistical services at the current stage of economic and social development.

The delegation familiarized itself with the activity of the CSA of the RSFSR, of the Moldavian SSR, and of Moscow Oblast.

PRAVDA REPORT ON PRC LEADERS' MESSAGE

PM150930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Gratitude for Congratulations"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers have received a telegram from Li Xiannian, PRC president; Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; and Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, expressing sincere gratitude for the congratulations on the 36th anniversary of the proclamation of the PRC

PRC NATIONAL COMMITTEE SESSION HELD

PM161338 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 85 First Edition p5

[TASS report: "Session Over"]

[Text] Beijing, 12 Oct -- RENMIN RIBAO and other central newspapers are publishing reports on the end of a routine session of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Council [CPPCC] [title as published].

A speech was delivered at the concluding session by Deng Yingchao, chairman of the CPPCC National Committee and widow of Zhou Enlai. She stressed that during the formulation and implementation of the Seventh 5-Year Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the PRC (1986-1990) it is necessary to follow the spirit of industriousness and thrift of the times of the PRC's formation. She also pointed to the need to study Marxist methodology and philosophy as applied to the conditions of China.

The session participants adopted a resolution to hold various jubilee events on the 120th anniversary of the birth of the Chinese revolutionary democrat Sun Yat-sen, which will be celebrated on 12 November 1986.

IMPRESSIONS OF DRA SERVICE LIFE VIEWED

PMI41854 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Sep 85 p 14

[Second and final part of special correspondent Aleksandr Prokhanov "Afghan Reportage":
"Notes on Armor"]

[Text] II.

Back in Moscow, in the subdued light of a table lamp, you open your well-thumbed notebooks and suddenly a sheaf of multicolored rays hits your eyes from the faded gray page, as if the brightest of slides has been inserted in a projector. You see a mountainside with screes of red stones, a tanker burning amid clouds of smoke, oily soot drifting toward a village, and the driver in his soft linen hat, having dived behind a smoking wheel, shooting a staccato fusillade of pale tracer bullets through the fire. A convoy, shaking the road, rumbles downward into a canyon, and gun barrels jerk and roar on the open platform.

Sounds and images are concentrated in these fades pages. The sound of voices. The screeching of metal. The splash of rivers. People speaking in Russian and Afghan. Laughter, orders, and shouts. The drop of oil that has spread over the page came from a broken crankcase. The rusty drop of blood that has soaked through the paper came from the wounded hand of the company commander who drew the canyon map for me. The semi-transparent small flower that has stuck to the page was almost subconsciously plucked and slipped into the notebook when we were climbing to a high altitude post and running out of strength, with hearts pounding terribly, and the sweaty soldiers carrying the water and food sat on the stones, and the yellow mountain flower got caught in the machine gun barrel.

These broken-off and incomplete scribblings contain the vibration of tank motors, the rush of high-speed personnel carriers, the maneuvers of helicopters, the icy draft in the mountain tunnel at night, the stifling gust of the scorchingly intense heat in the foothills. And faces, more faces, and more faces still, in helmets, in soft linen hats, in berets. They flashed briefly by and left their imprint in the notebook.

I leaf through the pages. Brows, cheeks, eyes. A multitude of voices....

Notation in the notebook: "The green zone of Charikar. Jabal os Saraj. The Salang canyon. Clashes on the road...."

What are they like, the Afghan land and natural environment which are the scenes of these clashes? The Hindu Kush divides the country at different angles, like an enormous granite fence. The mountain snow and ice melt into rivers that run down the sides of ridges, form canyon gashes dropping into valleys, and flow abundantly into channels. Here in the river valleys, where there is water and soil, there is life. Man, gardens, wheat fields, vineyards, villages, a huddled adobe settlement, one continuous village, feudal fortresses standing apart surrounded by greenery with round or angular towers, blue domes of mosques, a network of canals, underground water conduits, a labyrinth of adobe walls and paths. They all converge toward the nucleus of this "green zone," the heart of the "greenery" -- the district center or provincial capital, be it Qandahar, Herat, or Charikar.

The canyons -- they are the river courses, they are the roads -- link these "green zones" of life with one another. In the canyons you will see foamy streams of icy water, concrete serpentine roads carrying trucks, flocks of sheep, camel caravans. Sparse highlanders' villages clinging to the rocks. Multicolored screes, as if people at the top of the gray mountains are brewing blackberry, raspberry, or apple preserves and the contents of the tubs are running down to the foothills.

It is here, along these mountain routes, that the dushmans set their ambushes. They use stones to build firing foxholes as protection against the bullets from BTR's [armored personnel carriers]. They set up large-caliber machine guns made in Chinese plants and try to fire explosive bullets into the tanker convoys. They try to cut off the "green zones" from one another, to paralyze their life, to interrupt exchanges, to close the country's roads.

The "green zone" is the dushmans' base area, where they replenish their food stocks by robbing the peasants. They reinforce the gangs whose ranks have thinned out after combat by forcibly recruiting young men. They escape the chase by melting away among the peaceful peasants, hiding their weapons at the bottom of canals and water conduits, and picking up hoes. You walk alongside a yellow wheat field where the peasants are threshing, flailing, and winnowing the grain, the BTR's armor sheltering you from the flying white chaff, and you have no idea whose eyes are watching you from beneath the bluish turban -- a friend's or an enemy's. Who is that person dressed in a long gown who is smiling and waving at you from the roadside -- a peaceful peasant or a bandit with an automatic rifle concealed beneath his robes?

Beautiful and majestic nature. But your eyes, your ears, and your emotions perceive it differently from, say, the Caucasus. The jagged mountain peak -- are there any enemy machine gun nests there, ready to burst into life? The blue sky above the canyon -- it would be nice if a pair of helicopters appeared to fly above the convoy and provide "chopper" cover. The green garden by the roadside with its orange-colored fruit -- it would be better if it were not there: the luscious greenery provides a convenient spot for a grenade launcher. The picturesque path along the slope leading to the water source can blow up in a landmine explosion: god preserve the source, we'll manage somehow!

My friend the battalion commander, dressed in a "bodice" complete with ammunition webbing, grenades, and walkie-talkie, holding an AKS [kalashnikov assault rifle] across his knees, seated on the ribbed armor, and surveying the slopes with eyes red from the dust and ashes, said that in 10 years' time he would bring his wife and children here to spend a vacation with Afghan friends in the village. Then he would enjoy the nature. But not now, not at this precise moment....

Notation in the notebook: "The enemy is planning a massive strike along the highway. Ahmad Shah from Panjsher has sent up to 1,000 riflemen to the Salang canyon. An attack all along the highway from the tunnel to Tajekan is planned in the next few hours. A group of French cameramen are with the gangs...."

The road along the Salang canyon is the country's main highway, the "Transafghan," leading from the river port of Hayraton, right across the river from Termez on the banks of the Amu darya, through to Kabul, Jalalabad, and the Pakistani border. This road, this concrete ribbon running initially through the reddish desert and then higher and higher to the Salang pass, the snow, and the black square opening of the tunnel, this highway carries endless vehicle convoys, "strings" as the military call them. Both Soviet and Afghan "strings" with provisions, medicine, fuel, construction materials -- glass, fittings, cement, or freight for the agriculture -- fertilizers, tractors, combine harvesters. And, of course, freight for the army. Shaggy flocks of goats and sheep also use it, chased by swarthy shepherds. Kamaz's, Tatrass, Mercedes, and Fords, often decorated like caskets with multicolored stickers and charms.

It is not only freight that flows along this highway linking Afghanistan with the Soviet Union. It also carries, so to say, the energy of aid, solidarity, and friendship. The enemy strikes along this road, deploys his riflemen, showers the vehicles with machine gun fire, shoots from faultless [bezotkaznyy; possible misprint for bezotkatnyy meaning recoilless] gun emplacements, mines and blows up bridges. A blow against the highway is a blow against the people's power, against the national economy. Soldiers from the limited contingent are defending the highway and the tunnel together with the Afghan servicemen.

These convoys, these drivers with serious and stern faces inside tinplate cabs which offer no protection against the bullets. If they come under fire, it is their duty to nevertheless carry on, without accelerating and still keeping their proper distance, to drive their Kamaz's under the dushman salvos; and if a tanker behind you explodes and burst into flames, even though you may be injured or driving on smoking wheel rims, it is your duty to drive the vehicle to the edge, to the brink of the abyss so as not to block the highway, so as not to halt the convoy, so as not to freeze the entire line of tankers and expose it to the dushmans. Praise to them, honor and glory to those who drive their trucks! The dashboard carries a girl's photograph. And the lowered sun visors show inscriptions: Rostov na Donu, Chelyabinsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Mordovia, Kustanay. Maybe a fellow-countryman will be encountered? And they are encountered: but the main point is that the names of the native cities should be seen along this military highway. Let those back home know where their soldiers are now serving.

One would like to put an arm around their shoulders, speak with them a little longer, a little more affectionately. There is never time. You climb in the cabin. Sultry wind through the slots in the windscreen. An automatic rifle next to the gear stick. You jump out and wave farewell. Didn't even find out the name.

Any highway is a lively place. And the Salang highway in particular. They know each other, if not by name, then at least by sight. They exchange greetings and news. Letters. Someone's brother is serving somewhere in an engineering-sapper company -- give him greetings. Someone is bound to pass on the message. Someone else is returning from furlough -- and handing out presents along the way. Some Afghans have arrived from a village -- a mullah in (Samid) has died, the funeral is tomorrow. A party member from (Bagi-lal) exchanged fire with dushmans at this home last night. All the freight is in the public eye, all the drivers. Jokes, tricks, words of gratitude. All day long. Until the sun goes down, until blue shadows stretch down from the mountains, and suddenly barriers are lowered across the road in many places. The highways "lock up" for the night. It is deserted and silent. Only jackals run along it. Only dushmans crawl about. The hazy mountain stars look down....

Notation in the notebook: "the stalls in roadside villages have closed down. The stall traders have said that they will not trade for 3 days. Ahmad Shah's dushmans have arrived. They'll be raiding the highway for 3 days. Vehicles will burn. A locked-up tinplatekiosk. Iron locks on the doors...."

We are making our way up along a canyon with battalion commander major Valentin Glushko riding "up aloft." Our two BTR's are roaring up the incline, giving way to oncoming Afghan trucks -- ("Burbukhaykas") as the motorized infantrymen call them because of their enormous, brightly painted, shaking bodies.

The battalion commander, his legs dangling in the hatch and pressing the throat microphone to his adam's apple, is talking to the "pipemen" who are completing repairs to a pipeline that was damaged during the night and to the advance observation posts out of sight in the mountains.

Lean, agile, his voice hoarse from constant orders and radio conversations, his officer's mustache coated with grey mountain dust, his red eyes darting in all directions -- vigilant, scanning the surroundings in a flash, determining angles of fire.

He usually speaks of even the most terrible and most evil things with a subtle hint of irony and wit directed at himself, at the shell of the burned-out truck on the roadside, at the shaven head of the BTR's driver, at the slope where the dushmans had set up an ambush the previous week, at the roadside worker all covered in soot. It seems to me that this subtle irony is like a sensitive safety valve to release the pressure which constantly affects the spirit and the will, including the pressure in the blood vessels which is sharply noticeable at high altitudes.

He is the battalion commander who dreams of coming here with his wife and children in 10 years' time. He is the one who dreams of having his fill of going to the theater, lying on soft grass, and sailing on a ship along the Volga past the beautiful cities of home when he returns to the motherland. But now he is traveling along the highway, and every kilometer, every village, and every bridge bears witness to combat and ambush, human courage and suffering, momentary weakness, an endlessly prolonged struggle for him, the battalion commander, a struggle in which he, the "king of the road," has already lost two command BTR's which were hit by grenade launchers. Two stallions killed beneath him, if we were to use a comparison with the fierce cavalry fighters of old. One of the "hottest" sectors in Afghanistan has become his lot as battalion commander.

Up there by the tunnel it is freezing, and even the warm jackets are of no help. But down below in the "green zone" the heat is scorching and the armor sizzles. During the time of winter snowdrifts, when snowstorms and avalanches blocked the road, he, the commander, marched ahead of the bulldozers and snowplows, opening up a path where there could have been frozen mines. He, the commander, chasing dushmans in the mountains, froze in the ice, set up a tent above the abyss, and warmed the soldier with his own body. He, the commander, deafened by an explosion, still found within himself the strength to roll toward the jackknifed burning tanker, to sit next to the driver who had gone off his head, to yell at him, to shake him up, to bring him back into action -- and to lead the convoy away from the fire. He, the commander, climbed up to the high altitude "hideaway" cheering up and encouraging the tired soldiers carrying heavy loads of combat equipment, water, and food. He took part of the load from one who was losing strength. He, the commander, did not reproach the young company commander for his small blunder, but, on the contrary, treated him with utmost attention, gave him a chance to find his bearings, to catch his breath, to overcome his weakness, and to understand these mountains. And afterward he trusted him like he trusted himself. He, the commander, came to know this road by trial and error, each path from which the enemy could emerge, each peak where the enemy could set up a machine gun. And the errors still hurt, like the soft steel of shrapnel, while the successful trials light fires in his darting eyes.

He is known to the dushmans from the gangs in the vicinity. He is known and loved by villagers and drivers. The steering wheels are turned more cheerfully and more confidently when the convoy is joined by the battalion commander's green personnel carrier and the tall figure in a tank serviceman's helmet is in the armored saddle behind the machine gun.

He is a military man by nature, possessing that ingredient which is by no means present in everyone and turns him into a combat commander, just like it turns other people of a different nature into violinists, scientists, or tillers of the soil. This requires a special talent which at times cannot be seen in routine peacetime barracks life but suddenly emerges under fire. The same military, intelligent, precise, and fierce spirit that also animated Denis Davidov, Skobelev, Chapayev, and Pokryshkin. The countless servicemen in the Army of the past and the present who have been forced to defend a vast state enclosed by three oceans.

His great-grandfather fought in the Russo-Japanese War. His grandfather fell at Halhain Gol. His father's armored personnel carrier was on fire near Berlin in 1945. He went back to the burning vehicle, dove inside the hatch, and saved his commander's maps from the fire.

The battalion commander and I are traveling along the Salang canyon. A model-like village clinging to the cliffside. A multicolored chain of people is moving along the path away from the buildings. Women in yashmaks. Children in colorful clothing. Old men in turbans. Carrying packages, chasing sheep and goats. The civilian population is abandoning the roadside villages. The enemy is close, very near. Maybe already in the village. Already looking at us through machine gun sights....

Notation in the notebook: "Batch of freshly-baked bread. Dog by the name of dushman. Cat by the name of afonya...."

Back in Moscow, among the bustle of work, family celebrations, walks along the bank with the Kremlin's reflection in the river, in the midst of friendships, differences of opinion, and arguments, I suddenly see in my mind's eye the outpost between the foaming river and the highway, like a caucasian mountain hut built from stone slabs. A machine gun's eye starting from an embrasure. Field glasses at screwed-up eyes. A personnel carrier's dusty bulk. The dusk of a dormitory with tired soldiers stretched out on their backs. The officers' room with narrow two-tier bunkbeds, automatic rifles lying on the blankets, and a tape recorder buried among ammunition clips, first-aid packs, and ashtrays made of tank shell-casings plays a sweet slow blues melody while the convoy rumbles by with a hollow roar.

How are they feeling there now, at this hour, at this minute, while I look at the Bolshoy Theater's white facade, the playing fountains, the two beautiful girls' faces flashing by?

Company commander Senior Lieutenant Mikhail Medvedev, in camouflage overalls and alpine kit to make it easy to move in the mountains, is Siberian and the son of a senior [krupnyy] oblast leader. He did not follow the path that his father had wished and prepared for him but joined a general military school and found himself here. A letter from his wife had just arrived, with a photograph of his son. He wanted to read it, but the dushmans attacked a convoy in the neighboring sector. The letter in the inside pocket. The "bodice" with ammunition webbing across the chest. AKS across the shoulder. And on his way, with the son's photograph.

Squad commander Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Larshin. The day on which I arrived was his 25th birthday. The cook had made fritters and a mulberry desert. The brother-officers had prepared a gift. They had already laid the table beneath the protective camouflage net. They were already opening the cold soda pop cans, pulling on the rings like on hand grenades. Suddenly -- alarm, clanging of the brass shellcase, a ringing burst of automatic fire and he -- the birthday boy -- without waiting for his present dove inside the hatch, along the path under fire from a DShK [degtyarev and shpagin large-caliber machine gun]. Covering the hill spurs and slopes with machine gun fire, skirting around the purple smoke. Birthday in combat.

Private Oleg Volgin from the Crimea, from Yalta -- a "resort man" -- started telling about the color of the sea at home after the sun has set in a pink haze. He did not manage to finish. He started firing his machine gun from the mountain outpost, across the canyon, and into the opposite mountain from where entrenched dushmans were firing on a Kamaz convoy.

Junior Sergeant Valeriy Velche, a bee keeper from Moldavia. His grandfather, also a bee keeper, setting out the beehives in the flowering meadow, said farewell to him, his grandson on his way to the army. "I fought under bullets for 4 years, grandson. You look after yourself, hear!" The bee keeper returned from action, carrying the automatic rifle with a grave expression. It was not bees that had been buzzing around him. The smoke around him had not come from a bee keeper's smoke pot.

Medical instructor Anas Zaydulin was treating an Afghan girl's wound -- a bullet gash in the child's arm. The mother in her yashmak stood by sighing. The big-nosed swarthy father looked now at the sky, now at the soldier's hands. Or at the distant spur from where the dushman machine guns was firing.

I will remember these faces for ever. If I meet them accidentally in a crowd I will recognize them, I will call them to me, I will make them sit down, and I will surround them with concern and love. As if to repay them for the bread, the water, the bunk which they gave me, for the warm jacket, for pushing me behind armor....

At some point I will describe that battle, the sense of fear and vigilance, when the eye could not see out of the embrasure and you had to look out of the hatch to see: The shimmering red stone of the rocks, the black outlines of the burned-out gasoline tanker, and the dead Afghan driver in flowing robes, unwound turban fallen off his head, and legs twisted one around the other.

The surface of the road along which the truck was driving, now sticky and covered in fuel, further on the same surface covered in flour and sugar like wet snow, and the black tracks left behind the BTR. The machine gun chattered and roared, the ears went deaf, the driver with the shaven head shouted something through the hatch -- it appeared that a bullet had hit the interior and shattered the safety glass from inside.

I recall the panic in the Afghan convoy when the drivers abandoned their cabs and ran away under the red machine gun bullet traces, the leading tanker being hit and starting to pour smoke and bursting in flames, and later -- pale-faced and praying -- they turned the steering wheels to pass the burning Tatra and take the convoy away from the gunfire.

I recall the path on the mountainside and the thin chain of people, like beads, like a rosary. Swaying and marching up the mountain. Those were the dushmans, beaten off by machine gun fire, abandoning the ambush site. Three explosions hit the path, planted one after the other. A strike by the mortars which had hastened to the attack site.

And the tanker did not blow upward like a red mushroom, like the previous ones, but downward, onto the highway, pouring out boiling solar oil, and the dead man in the turban and the slipper, smothered in a blanket of fire, suddenly started twitching at the pull of his dead and incinerated sinews.

And the bulldozer with its mirror-like blade attacking the fire and the accumulation of iron, pushing the red-hot truck into the abyss.

It was during this action that the battalion commander's BTR -- the third one -- burned out after being stuck in the burning convoy. The battalion commander abandoned the vehicle but soon made his way back to it. He dove into the fire and brought out his commander's maps. Thus history repeated itself -- the coincidence of two instants separated by decades, of two fates, of two careers, of two lives of father and son; and in this coincidence there was an instantaneous flash of the terrible truth, which I did not manage to perceive -- the back-up group was roaring on its way and the company commander in the camouflage suit was shouting something from the armor.

At some point I will describe this battle, provided I understand where this battle is to be placed, next to what, at which counterpoint, so to speak. Maybe in contrast with a description of a concert by a famous entertainer. Or a meeting of our critics, pontificating about romantic prose. Or simply the image of Moscow in the evening, so beautiful, so peaceful, all white stone and golden roofs. Not now, somewhat later, afterward.

For now -- the notebook's faded pages. The telephone number of the soldier from Moscow, which I have already called. The pages carry bits of soot -- trace of burned wheat....

Battlefield Experiences

LD131027 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 12 Oct 85

[Interview with Senior sergeant Aleksandr Maznov by correspondent Aleksandr Avramov, presented under the title "They Served Afghanistan" from the "IServe the Soviet Union" program; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Abramov] Saying goodbye Senior Sergeant Aleksandr (Maznov) raised his left hand to me. He is still suffering the effects of a second wound received in the Hindu Kush mountains, a single shot from the undergrowth. This was on one of the roads where his motorized rifle platoon was accompanying a routine supply convoy. How many times have I been in units talking to soldiers and officers and asked them what they remember most in their service -- the first day, the first march, field firing exercises, return from a swimming trip? Yes, military service is very varied but the routine days when you train to be a soldier and train to fight are the most numerous. For Aleksandr (Masnov), holder of two Red Star Orders, the turning point in his service was the first battle with the dushmen.

[Masnov] The first battle -- and the veterans of our Patriotic War have said this as well -- War is frightening. No one finds war not frightening. And in the first action I was very frightened. And I am grateful to my deputy sergeant, (Kotov): He has been awarded the Red Star Order and a medal for bravery. It was this sergeant who helped me to lead the platoon in this first engagement. Since then I have recalled this with kind words. I was also helped in the same action by my comrade, Platoon commander and Senior Sergeant (Ostroumov), who has served there much longer than I. Thanks to their advice the first action went very well for me and helped me throughout my remaining service in the DRA.

[Abramov] What kind of action was it? Under what circumstances did it take place?

[Masnov] The action took place while combing a populated area where a large band of dushmen had moved in. This band had occupied the village and also blocked the route along which supplies were transported from one populated area to another. My platoon, was placed in a crucial spot, particularly as this was my first action, so I won't hide the fact that I was alarmed when the firing started. It's one thing to see people shooting in films, or to read in a book somewhere that firing started; but people were being shot at.

[Abramov] And you were forced to respond.

[Masnov] Yes, I had to give the command to open fire and position my men; and while still looking after these men I had to continue the task until the convoy with our supplies had passed, for that was the dushmen's prime target; the tankers. And so, as soon as these vehicles appeared they started to fire. But until then all was quiet. There wasn't a single shot fired from the village, nothing at all. They were just lying in wait for us then. My platoon executed its task and not one vehicle was destroyed or put out of action and the convoy passed by without harm.

[Abramov] How many other such convoys have there been, snow, passes, stone scree along the roads, gorges and precipices into which bulldozers have pushed burned-out tankers and fuel-conveying vehicles. The rest hours are short and again the field radios pick up the report that a gang has appeared in their area. The alarm signal sounds. Again the commander's armored personnel carrier travels over the concrete road spread with fuel oil past the framework of burned-out trucks. And he, the commander, bears the responsibility for the young lads sitting beside him. They already know their commander in action and trust him. In his measured commands and gestures they feel the experience of a man, the experience of a commander.

In one of the battles he was with a group of soldiers evacuating the wounded. They were ambushed and took up all-round defense. The shooting went on for a long time and it was only later that our men got through to them. This is how this harsh experience is gained and how the feeling of battle fraternity is gained.

[Masnov] I would particularly like to say that soldiers who have served for a long time help the more recently called-up soldiers in the battle situation. I was with a long serving soldier, (Lomidze), and in one of the battles he used his body to protect a young soldier who had just arrived and who panicked. This soldier was in combat for the first time and did not know how to act. The dushmans started shooting and he panicked. And this soldier, Lomidze, screened this soldier with his body and thereby saved his life. He, himself, was severely wounded but they managed to save him in time, to carry him away from the battlefield and to get him to hospital where the necessary appropriate aid was given to him.

The soldier's life is a harsh one. We live in military camps. We live in tents. The other things we have are our soldiers' canteen, our club where we do not feel cut off from our land. We get visits from artistes who, as it were, bring us news from our homeland. For example, I have never seen them in the USSR but in Afghanistan I saw (?Yusuf Kabzon) and Mila Zykina and many other such well-known artistes. Well, and what else can I say? Oh, of course, there is the soldiers' bath house.

[Abramov] Everything just as normal, but.. [Abramov leaves sentence unfinished]

[Masnov.] Everything just as normal but there is a reinforced guard. The guard is responsible not just for his own life but for the lives of his comrades who sleep clamly at night in their tents after a hard day.

And I would like to say a few words about the heat. In the summer the heat is very intense. You feel like drinking all the time. But you must be constantly on the alert. Our company had men who had been called up at different times; we had people of many different nationalities; we lived as one friendly collective. And it was very pleasant when some soldier from our company got received an award. This was a cause of joy not only for this soldier but for the whole collective that this soldier from our company had received an award. And I might say, that many of my soldiers received awards. Many of the soldiers went home with medals and orders for fulfilling this international duty.

DRA FORCES 'ELIMINATE' REBELS IN KHOWST

PM150925 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS correspondent A. Greshnov dispatch "Crushing Blow"]

[Text] Kabul, 12 Oct -- Units and subunits of the DRA Armed Forces eliminated gangs of counterrevolutionaries in various parts of Khowst district where the latter had established major strong points. Lieutenant General (Shah Nawaz Tanay), chief of the DRA Armed Forces General Staff, told a TASS correspondent about the military and political results of the operation.

In an effort to transform southern and northern parts of Khowst into an impregnable fortress, the counterrevolution established major fortified areas there comprising hundreds of fire positions and dozens of arms and ammunition dumps. The counterrevolutionaries spread the myth alleging that government forces will never succeed in driving their detachments out of this area.

The rout of 77 gangs in Khowst was carefully planned by the DRA Armed Forces General Staff. During the fighting close cooperation between ground forces and the aircraft was achieved. Young officers and servicemen who had not taken part in this kind of operation before received a good tempering. Leadership was effected by an operational group of the General Staff.

The units and subunits of the DRA Armed Forces honorably discharged the task they had been set. Many officers and men displayed courage and heroism during the fighting. As a result of the combat action more than 2,500 bandits were killed and 56 arms and ammunition dumps destroyed. Today the area is entirely controlled by government forces and peace and tranquillity have been restored.

The political results of the fighting, (Shah Nawaz Tanay) noted, consist above all in the population's considerably strengthened faith in the revolutionary power's potential. Families which left their motherland under the influence of hostile propaganda have begun returning from Pakistan. It is now even more obvious that the counterrevolution's attempts to regain lost influence and turn back the wheel of time are doomed to failure. The heroic Afghan people and its valourous Armed Forces will emerge victorious.

SFRY ASSEMBLY DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT

Meets With Salimov

LD151106 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 14 Oct 85

[Text] Supreme Soviet Presidium Deputy Chairman Akil Salimov, chairmen and members of the permanent commission of the soviets of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met today with a Yugoslav assembly delegation headed by Ilijaz Kurtesi, that Assembly's president. The two sides exchanged information on the structure and activities of the two countries' parliaments. It was satisfactorily established in a friendly conversation that deep bilateral parliamentary contacts significantly contribute to the consolidation of friendly Soviet-Yugoslav relations, which agree with the interests of the two countries' peoples, peace, and international cooperation.

It was stressed that the continuation of confrontation, a further increase in nuclear and other arms, the danger from a widening arms race to space, military conflicts and hotbeds of tension in various world regions, demand urgent efforts by all states and peoples toward consolidating peace and security, returning international relations to detente and constructive cooperation, on the basis of equality, the respect for independence, and the right of peoples to free development.

Soviet comrades pointed out in this connection the great significance of the Soviet peace initiatives presented by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, which provide a good basis for the normalization of the international climate and practicably demonstrates the sincere Soviet interest in disarmament and eliminating the danger of nuclear catastrophe.

Vadim Zagladin, Lidiya Lykova, Vitaliy Masol, Vladislavas Mikuchyauskas, delegates of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Rybakov, and responsible USSR Supreme Soviet aides, other official personalities, and Milojko Drulovic, Yugoslav ambassador to the Soviet Union, participated in the talks. The guests visited the Moscow Gorispolkom on the same day.

Moscow Gorispolkom Visit

LD142245 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 14 Oct 85

[Text] The SFRY Assembly delegation, headed by Ilijaz Kurtesi, president of the SFRY Assembly, continues its official visit to the Soviet Union. Today the delegation visited the Moscow Gorispolkom where it held friendly talks with Sergey Kolomin, first deputy chairman of the Moscow gorispolkom. The talks dealt with bilateral cooperation. Comrade Rolomin stressed that Soviet people judged the present visit as yet another important step on the way to consolidate friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. The two sides also discussed possibilities for improving cooperation between the two countries and their capitals.

Later, the Yugoslav guests were received by the representatives of Soviets, representatives and members of the permanent commission of Soviets of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Today the guests from Yugoslavia visited new buildings in the Soviet capital and in the evening they attended a performance in the State Puppet Theater.

Confers With Gromyko; Departs

LD162212 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR today received the delegation of the SFRY Assembly led by Ilijaz Kurtesić, the president of the Assembly and member of the LCY Central Committee, which was in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit.

During the conversation, which took place in a warm friendly atmosphere, profound satisfaction was expressed at the wide and fruitful cooperation between the USSR and SFRY in all fields. Particular stress was placed on the importance of the meetings Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has had with Yugoslav top-level party and state leaders in 1985 for the further strengthening of the friendship, trust, and mutual understanding on the firm basis of the principles and agreements embodied in the joint Soviet-Yugoslav documents.

Comrade Gromyko informed the Yugoslav parliamentarians about the course of the implementation of the large-scale plans for accelerating the country's social and economic development, about the preparations underway in the Soviet Union for the 27th CPSU Congress.

In discussing the international situation, both sides expressed their concern at the dangerous tension that persists, and also their conviction on the necessity of further increasing all antiwar forces, and of their closer joint action in the interests of the struggle against the imperialist policy of the arms' race.

Attention was drawn by the Soviet side to the recent important foreign policy initiatives of the USSR. This is a matter first and foremost of getting the USSR and United States to agree on the complete ban for both sides on space strike weapons, and to cut by 50 percent their nuclear weapons that can reach each other's territory. The Soviet initiative concerning a moratorium on the conducting of any sort of nuclear tests, and the Soviet proposal under discussion at the 40th UN General Assembly session concerning peaceful cooperation in studying space under conditions of its nonmilitarization, are important.

It was stressed that the USSR, as before, firmly favors a reduction in military confrontation and an improvement in the political climate in Europe and throughout the world, and resolutely supports proposals on the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world, and also zones free of chemical weapons.

The SFRY parliamentarians highly appraised the new Soviet initiatives, and emphasized the firm adherence of Yugoslavia to the cause of peace and international cooperation.

Note was made of the growing role of the Nonaligned Movement in resolving such vital questions for mankind as universal disarmament and the establishing of a new international economic order.

In the view of both sides, the forthcoming meeting in Geneva in November of the leaders of the USSR and United States may become a very important event not only in Soviet-U.S. relations, but also in the international arena as a whole. The success of the meeting will depend on the feelings of responsibility which both partners present at the talks. As for the Soviet Union, it will do everything possible so that this meeting leads to the positive results peoples crave.

The partners in the talks drew attention to the responsible role of parliamentarians of all countries in the efforts to reduce the level of military confrontation, to strengthen trust and security on the European continent, to eliminate the hotbeds of tension, and to resolve controversial problems through negotiations.

At the end, conviction was expressed that the present visit to the Soviet Union by the delegation of the SFRY Assembly and the talks held in our country will contribute usefully to the further development of comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia. Both sides also stressed their desire to continue to develop increasingly firmer links between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the SFRY Assembly in the interest of the further strengthening of the traditional Soviet-Yugoslav friendship and the cause of peace.

On the Soviet side the talks were also attended by Tengiz Menteshashvili, secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; (Vladislovas Mikuchauskas), deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Boris Antonov, deputy minister for foreign affairs; and Nikolay Rodionov, the USSR ambassador in the SFRY. On the Yugoslav side the talks were also attended by Milojko Drulovic, the SFRY ambassador to the USSR.

The SFRY delegation left for home today. At the airport the delegation was seen off by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials. Milojko Drulovic, the SFRY ambassador to the USSR, was also present at the departure ceremony.

SFRY Spokesman Hails Visit

PM131826 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "A Reliable Foundation"]

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Oct -- In connection with the visit to the USSR by a Yugoslav parliamentary delegation headed by I. Kurtesi, president of the SFRY Federal Assembly, a spokesman for the SFRY Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs made a statement stressing that Yugoslavia attaches great importance to the visit from the viewpoint of the further development and strengthening of interparliamentary cooperation. The visit confirms the two countries' willingness and desire to further consolidate relations in all spheres of mutual interest.

Bilateral relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union, the statement notes, are developing successfully and comprehensively in accordance with the well-known principles which have confirmed their value over the past 30 years and which are a reliable foundation for strengthening cooperation.

STROGANOV COMMENTS ON POLISH SEJM ELECTION RESULTS

LD152239 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 15 Oct 85

["Poland: The Results of Elections to the Sejm" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 15 TASS -- TASS commentator Oleg Stroganov writes:

Elections to the Sejm, the country's top legislative body, were held in the Polish People's Republic last Sunday.

An overwhelming majority of Poles displayed the patriotic understanding of the words 'Fatherland is joint responsibility' by their fellow countryman, poet democrat Cyprien Kamil Norwid, by voting for the people's 460 nominees. Their candidacies together with other candidates had been dominated or supported by the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PMNR) which includes the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP), the United Peasants Party (UPP), the Democratic Party (DP), a number of mass public organisations as well as secular associations of believers, including "Pax" society. Their cooperation with the recognition of the leading role of the communists (PUWP) manifests the political foundation of socialism in Poland -- the alliance of the working class and peasantry with the active support and participation of working intelligentsia and other non-exploiter sections of population: craftsmen, small traders and members of free-lance professions.

At the October 13 elections the PUWP came forward with a constructive programme for finally overcoming the consequences of the recent crisis through the introduction of an economic reform further perfection of socialist democracy and strict observance of the public law and order, and of the rights and dignity of the individual, and all-round improvement of the working and living conditions of citizens. The programme was unanimously supported by the UPP and the DP, which found reflection in the joint election declaration of the PMNR.

The PMNR sees the main external condition for the successful accomplishment of tasks facing Poland in strengthening Poland's all-round friendly contacts with the Soviet Union and other Warsaw-Treaty and CMEA member-states, in resuming and broadening mutually beneficial peaceful cooperation with all countries of the East and West.

The elections to the Sejm and a high turnout of voters showed at the same time that the Polish people reject all attempts by both internal and international reaction at destabilizing the situation in Poland and at tearing it away from the socialist community.

SKOLOV GREETES POLISH COUNTERPART ON ARMY DAY

PM141129 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 85 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade F. Siwicki, Polish minister of national defense.

Esteemed Comrade Minister! On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself I cordially congratulate you and all Polish servicemen on the 42d anniversary of the Polish People's Army.

The Polish People's Army reliably defends the Polish working people's socialist gains and, together with the Warsaw Pact armies, stands guard over the socialist community's interests and European and international security. On this day I wish all Polish servicemen new successes in combat and political training and in strengthening their motherland's defense capability.

With Communist Greetings,

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR minister of defense.

MOSCOW FUNCTIONS MARK POLISH ARMY DAY 10 OCT

PM141046 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Mark the Anniversary"]

[Text] Representatives of the public marked the 42d anniversary of the Polish People's Army in Moscow 10 October. It was emphasized at the meeting devoted to this event that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' peoples and armies, tempered in the joint struggle against fascism, are serving the cause of socialism and peace.

Lieutenant General H. Koczera, military, naval, and air attache at the Polish embassy in the USSR, emphasized that the Soviet Armed Forces played an important role in the establishment of the Polish People's Army.

Great patriotic war veterans and members of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society Aktiv attended the meeting.

On the same day Lt Gen H. Koczera, military, naval, and air attache at the Polish Embassy in the USSR, gave a reception to mark the 42d anniversary of the Polish People's Army.

Marshal of Aviation A.F. Yefimov and Marshal of Engineer Troops N.F. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense ministers; generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces; and great patriotic war veterans who participated in Poland's liberation from the fascist occupiers, were at the reception.

Military, naval, and air attaches from the embassies of several foreign countries in Moscow were among the guests. Poland's Ambassador to the USSR S. Kociolek was present.

POLISH GENERAL COMMEMORATES ON ARMED FORCES HOLIDAY

PM151009 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 85 Second Edition p 5

["INTERPRESS article specially for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA" by Polish Division General Wojciech Baranski: "Fraternal Alliance" -- first three paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] Forty-two years ago, on 12 October 1943, the First Polish Infantry Division named for T. Kosciuszko, formed on Soviet territory with the assistance of the Soviet Union, engaged the enemy for the first time. Fighting side by side with Soviet Army servicemen, Polish servicemen won their first victory over the Hitlerites near Lenino, a small Belorussian town. In honor of this glorious baptism of fire, 12th October was declared Polish People's Army Day.

The servicemen of today's Polish People's Army are continuing the frontline traditions of their fathers and grandfathers in a worthy fashion. In a single combat formation with the servicemen of the other Warsaw Pact enemies they firmly stand guard over peace and socialism. Recently the Druzhba-85 exercises were held on Polish territory with the participation of commanders, staffs, units, and subunits of the Soviet Army, the GDR National People's Army, and the Polish People's Army.

Today we hear from Division General Wojciech Baranski, deputy commander of the Druzhba-85 exercises and chief of the Polish People's Army Main Combat Training Directorate.

Joint exercises by military units of the Warsaw Pact armies have always provided much evidence of excellent training and efficient cooperation. This was also the case with the exercises held on Polish territory this year. Like all preceding exercises of this kind they represented an important test of the combat readiness of our Armies' servicemen. The main aim was the further improvement of combined operations by staffs and troops within a coalition defense system. At the same time they were a display of our achievements in all the leading spheres of military affairs.

Indubitably, the exercises contributed to a further strengthening of comradeship in arms, a closer acquaintance between officers and men, and a strengthening of international friendship. Years later, and I know this from my own experience, difficult exercises are remembered with special warmth.

For Polish People's Army servicemen, participation in these exercises had a special significance because they were being held in the year of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany and militarist Japan and also the 30th anniversary of the Defensive Warsaw Pact, which was concluded in our capital.

This year's exercises were held in the same area where 40 years ago the Soviet and the First Division of the Polish People's Army were routing the enemy. This has a profoundly symbolic significance. Today we spare no effort to prove by our military labor at every post, irrespective of conditions, that the Polish People's Army is a reliable component of the socialist defensive alliance and that we continue in a worthy fashion the combat traditions born more than 40 years ago.

At present, when the intentions of the United States and other NATO countries are becoming increasingly aggressive, the enhancement of the socialist states' defense capability is assuming paramount importance. Every serviceman of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces is aware of this. We want to live in peace and raise and educate our children and grandchildren in the spirit of friendship among people the world over. However, we cannot remain inactive when the planet is threatened with thermonuclear catastrophe and when the Washington "hawks" are ready to extend the arms race to space. We must improve our combat skills and vigilantly stand guard over peace and socialism.

The fact that Europe has lived in peace and without wars for 40 years is due to the wise and perspicacious policy of our states' Communist parties. It is also partly due to the fraternal Armies' servicemen, because we are aware of the need to improve the socialist community countries' defense might and spare no effort to maintain peace on earth. Every potential aggressor must reckon with our states' defense might. Rallied in our fraternal alliance, we are invincible.

DEMICHEV ATTENDS SOVIET CONCERT IN BUDAPEST

PM161133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conclusion of Days of Culture"]

[Text] Budapest, 15 Oct -- In Hungary yesterday a big concert of masters of art concluded the Days of Soviet Culture marking the 68th anniversary of Great October and the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. The concert was attended by Hungarian party and state leaders, representatives of the public, and a Soviet delegation headed by P. N. Demichev.

The envoys of Soviet multinational art were warmly and cordially greeted on Hungarian soil. The inhabitants of Budapest and other cities in the country were familiarized with the performances of leading theatrical collectives, singers, and musicians. There were joint creative meetings of figures of art which examined questions of the further consolidation of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation in the cultural field.

A reception, which was attended by Hungarian leaders and USSR cultural figures and the USSR delegation, was held in the Hungarian parliament building to mark the Days of Soviet Culture.

SALIMOV RECEIVES CSSR SUPREME COURT CHAIRMAN

PM141147 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Received"]

[Text] A delegation of the CSSR Federal Supreme Court headed by its chairman, J. Ondrej, was received on 11 October by A.U. Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

V.I. Terebilov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, and M. Zavadil, CSSR ambassador to the USSR, took part in the friendly conversation.

CSSR, ALBANIA SIGN TRADE PROTOCOL

PM141252 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Czechoslovak-Albanian Protocol"]

[Text] Prague, 13 Oct -- A protocol on trade turnover and payments for 1986 signed here between Czechoslovakia and Albania envisages a further increase in the volume of reciprocal trade, CTK reports.

Czechoslovakia will export goods vehicles, hydraulic loaders, diesel units and motors, metal-cutting machine tools, ball bearings, tires, rolled metal, chemicals, and consumer goods to Albania. Albania will deliver ferronickel ore and chromites, asphalt, tobacco, furs, cigarettes, vegetables, fruit, and other goods to the CSSR.

BRIEFS

ALBANIAN FRIENDSHIP TIES -- In Moscow today there was a meeting of the central board of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society which was devoted to the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Albanian Writers Union. At the meeting it was noted that the fruitful contacts which had developed in the postwar period between the writers' organizations of the USSR and Albania had promoted the mutual acquaintance of the publics of the two countries with their cultural wealth. It was stressed that the Soviet people, who have friendly feelings towards the Albanian people, favor the restoration of normal relations with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania in the interests of peace and socialism. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 10 Oct 85 LD]

LD161632 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Oct 85

During the talk, both sides stressed the need for efforts by all states in the cause of maintaining peace and international security, for the adoption of effective measures to halt the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, and for the renunciation of the deployment [razmeshcheniye] of space strike weapons.

LD162332 Moscow TASS in English 1801 GMT 16 Oct 85

Italy is on the threshold of a governmental crisis. The national leadership of the Italian Republican Party held an urgent meeting today and took the decision to withdraw from the government. The Italian Republican Party was represented by three ministers in the five-party cabinet which is headed by Socialist Bettino Craxi and which was formed in August 4, 1983. The Republican leader Giovanni Spadolini held the post of defence minister, the Party Chairman Bruno Visentini -- finance minister, Oscar Mammi -- minister of relations with parliament.

The Republicans' decision to withdraw from the ruling coalition was taken because of disagreement with the government's actions in the course of the events linked with the seizure of the Achille Lauro motorship. Commenting on this step, Giovanni Spadolini told journalists: "What is at issue is a governmental crisis".

Urgent meetings of the leadership of the parties of the ruling majority and the main oppositional parties were held this evening to appraise and analyze the obtaining situation. In the opinion of the Italian television commentator, a governmental crisis in the country is inevitable.

LD090957 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 9 Oct 85

[International Affairs Journalist Eduard Kovalev Commentary]

[Text] As 1 November approaches, the date by which a final decision is to be made on whether U.S. cruise missiles will be deployed in the Netherlands, mass protest movements are being unleashed ever more widely in the country against the nuclear threat.

Dozens of Dutch people, peace supporters, and participants in the antimissile movement are intensifying their actions. Today the number of people taking part in mass peace actions is greater than expected. They are acting with much more confidence, foreign press correspondents report in their evaluation of the current scale of the antiwar movement in the Netherlands.

The reason for this confidence of success is the new Soviet position on the question of the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, which was announced in Paris during the visit there by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. The announcement by the Soviet leader of the reduction of the number of Soviet medium-range missiles on military duty [na boyevom dezhrystve] is the top news item in the Netherlands. The fact is that the Netherlands Government, giving way to pressure from the United States and NATO, has bound itself to embark next year on the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles, only in the case that the Soviet Union should have more than 378 SS-20 missiles at the end of October. Following the reduction of Soviet missiles announced by M.S. Gorbachev, this condition has in actual fact lost its force. The declaration by the Soviet leader has activated the opposition in the Netherlands parliament. The opponents of the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles are declaring with good reason that the Netherlands must not deploy U.S. first-strike missiles at a time when the Soviet Union is reducing its medium-range weapons.

Under these conditions, the Dutch peace supporters look to the future with great optimism. They point out that 2 million of the 8 million Dutch voters have already signed a petition demanding that the government refuse to deploy U.S. missiles on Netherlands territory. The collection of signatures will continue for 2 more weeks.

Those taking part in the antiwar movement in the Netherlands are mobilizing all their forces to achieve success. The Dutch members of parliament will be forced to take into account the scale of the antinuclear movement in the country.

FRENCH CP NATIONAL CONFERENCE ADOPTS PLATFORM

PM161207 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 85 First edition p 4

[TASS report: "French Communist Party Conference"]

[Text] Paris, 14 Oct -- The French Communist Party [PCF] national conference has ended in the Paris suburb of Nanterre. It was devoted to the PCF's preparations for the elections to parliament and regional organs of power scheduled for March 1986. Approximately 1,200 delegates representing all PCF local federations participated in its work.

In his speech at the conference A. Lajoinie, chairman of the Communist group in the National Assembly, dwelt in particular on the country's political and economic problems. He drew attention to the fact that the army of the unemployed in France has now topped 3 million. Every year approximately 200,000 jobs are being eliminated in various sectors of the French economy. The speaker also pointed out that the present widening of the strike struggle attests to the working people's growing dissatisfaction with the cabinet's economic policy. He went on to point out that French people cannot be satisfied with the country's growing dependence on the EEC's leading organs and U.S. demands.

Summing up the conference, PCF Secretary General G. Marchais pointed out that the PCF is ready to cooperate with other political forces in the country with a view to surmounting the economic crisis and effecting changes in French society.

The conference approved a document setting forth measures advanced by the French Communists in connection with the elections with a view to ensuring economic growth, resolving the unemployment problem, raising the working people's real wages, and improving the situation of broad sections of the population. These measures also provide for the further broadening of the struggle for peace and disarmament.

UK MIDEAST INITIATIVE ENDS IN 'TOTAL FAILURE'

PM161328 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Maslennikov dispatch: "Backtracking"]

[Text] London, 15 Oct -- London's attempt to make its own "contribution" to a Near East settlement has ended in a crushing political scandal. The story began during Prime Minister M. Thatcher's recent tour of a number of Near East countries. At that time the head of the British Government suggested that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation travel to London for talks about Britain's assistance in the cause of "speeding up the peace process" in the Near East.

Whitehall thus expected to kill two birds with one stone: to build up its prestige among Arab countries like Jordan and Saudi Arabia, with which Britain recently concluded a number of major arms delivery deals; and at the same time, to help its senior U.S. partner, whose affairs in the Near East are in a far from favorable situation.

But London made a major error of calculation. Britain's Foreign Office had obviously underestimated the influence of Zionist pro-Israel circles both across the ocean and inside its own country. These circles launched an intensive propaganda campaign against the arrival of official PLO representatives in Britain. They organized a mass protest meeting in London, where the role of chief agitator was played by A. Rubinstein, member of the Israeli Cabinet, who arrived here for this specific purpose. There followed a corresponding squawk from Washington, where people obviously felt that, under the circumstances of an "undeclared war" unleashed against the PLO by the Reagan administration in connection with the recent incidents in the Mediterranean, to receive members of this organization's leadership in London would be, to say the least, inappropriate.

Britain had to backtrack. It was announced literally a few hours before the scheduled meeting at the Foreign Office that it had been canceled. The reason given by Britain's foreign office for this step, which is highly unusual in diplomatic practice was the refusal by M. Milhem and E. Khoury, the PLO executive committee members who had come to London, to sign the text of a statement supposedly agreed in advance and planned for publication following the end of the talks. The PLO representatives declared that they could not sign the suggested text because the British side had introduced amendments which were absolutely unacceptable to their organization. One way or another, London's widely publicized "initiative" in Near East affairs has ended in total failure, and this has proved yet again the hopelessness of trying to achieve a settlement in this region along the path of separate deals, regardless of who may initiate them.

KOMAROV RECEIVES IRELAND'S TRADE MINISTER

LD162344 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow, October 16 TASS -- N.D. Komarov, first deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR, met and conferred here today with John Bruton, minister of industry, trade and tourism of Ireland, who arrived in Moscow at the head of the representative delegation of the Irish business community.

The sides examined questions pertaining to the state and prospects for Soviet-Irish trade and economic ties in the light of the implementation of the agreement on the development of economic, industrial, scientific and technological cooperation signed by the governments of the USSR and Ireland.

Attend the talk was Tige O'Sullivan, ambassador of Ireland to the USSR. [sentence as received]

LUXEMBOURG ADVOCATES CHEMICAL WEAPONS BAN

LD170428 Moscow TASS in English 0107 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] Luxembourg, October 16 TASS -- A joint statement published here today by Jacques Poos, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Luxembourg, and Marc Fischbach, minister of Armed Forces, says that the Government of Luxembourg stands for a total ban and elimination of chemical weapons. The best method to solve the chemical weapons problem is a radical one. Chemical weapons should be eliminated everywhere in the world, the statement says.

It points out that the Government of Luxembourg supports the signing of an international agreement on the total ban on the production, storage and also the use of chemical arms under active international control.

The ministers made the statement in response to an inquiry by a Democratic MP.

GREEK-SOVIET SHIPPING COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS REPORTED

NC121559 Athens ATHENS NEWS in English 12 Oct 85 p 12

[Excerpt] The considerable progress made in Greek-Soviet shipping relations during the last 10 years, as well as the cooperation existing at all levels, were underscored during the 7th meeting of the mixed Greek-Soviet Committee on Shipping, held in Leningrad from 30 September to 2 October.

Indicative of the progress in shipping relations between the two countries is the increase by 1.5 million tons of sea trade, the threefold increase of Greek vessels chartered by the Soviet Union, as well as the increase in the number of Soviet vessels repaired at Greek shipyards.

Both sides at the meeting recognised that prerequisites exist for the expansion of shipping relations, and expressed interest in the further encouragement of chartering and repair and construction of ships in Greek yards.

The Greek delegation was headed by Secretary General of the Ministry of Merchant Marine Vasilios Papadhopoulos. The next meeting will be held in Greece in the autumn of 1986.

FURTHER COVERAGE OF AL-QADHDHAFI MOSCOW VISIT

Speech at 11 Oct Kremlin Dinner

LD121728 Tripoli JANA in English 0809 GMT 12 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow, Muharram 28, Oct 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Government of the Soviet Union held a dinner banquet last night in honour of the leader of the revolution and his accompanying delegation.

The dinner banquet, which was held at the Kremlin Palace in Moscow, was attended by: Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Mr Andrey Gromyko, the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Communist Party's Central Committee Politburo members, members of the Soviet Government, the heads of state committees of the Soviet Union and other Soviet official personalities.

The leader of the revolution gave a speech during the dinner banquet in which he said:

Dear Friend Mikhail Gorbachev, dear Soviet friends. I think you in the name of my accompanying delegation on the warmth of the reception we received which reflected the warmth of the friendship of our two countries. I thank you on what words of welcoming and appreciation to us and to our countries relations you said in your speech. I express my gratitude for the development of the relations between our two countries. I feel that this visit has laid the foundations of our personal friendship which in turn will develop the relations of the two countries. I express, in the name of the revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland, our gratitude to the firm stances of the Soviet Union towards the Arab nation's just causes. I agree with you in your analysis of the current international situation as was laid down in your speech. Our discussions yesterday and today had given us the opportunity to review this dangerous situation and made us all express concern for the world peace that is threatened by the imperialist policies. But the analysis is not enough. Imperialism and Zionism are condemned without wasting any time. But what is important is the unification of efforts of the forces of peace and progress in the world to confront these hostile policies. No doubt, our two countries play an important role in jointly or individually confronting the imperialist policies.

The Libyan revolution had inflicted a heavy loss on imperialism when it rid an important part of the Mediterranean from imperialist bases. The Libyan revolution actively contributed in liberating an important part of the Mediterranean in this act.

The Libyan revolution spread a wide reaching anti-imperialism climate in the region and in the world. The Libyan revolution contributed in the process of liberating a number of areas of the world from imperialist influence. The active aid for freedom and struggle against imperialism of the Libyan revolution had reached Latin America, Africa and Asia.

It is good luck, as we stated in our talks, that our national struggle is positively reflecting on the interests of the Soviet Union on its own. [sentence as received] Also the Soviet Union's national struggle against imperialism and for progress is reflected in the same manner on us and our national causes. When the imperialists want to get ahead of the Soviet Union it is natural that they stamp on us and our countries with their feet, before they reach the Soviet Union.

In the end, we see from this analysis that our joint struggle is one and against this one enemy and this joint struggle will go on as long as imperialism exists. Even if imperialism disappears, we will continue to struggle to make nature yield to mankind. The third universal theory, on which the Libyan Jamahiriya was based, is a new stage on the road of the foreseeable progress of man towards the final liberation.

The Green Book opens new horizons for mankind to progress. The Green Book is not written by a one man as much as it is laid down by mankind's struggle and a resultant of its experiences including Marxism. For this, even on the ideological side, imperialism considers both of us as a joint target, but we will be victorious over imperialism ideologically and materially. Imperialism created a rotten society doomed to be annihilated. The alliance of imperialism with Zionism is a natural thing ideologically.

Zionism is the product of the bourgeois theory of the Jewish society as much as the Israeli society is a product of Zionism. Zionism is the movement of the rich, imperialist and interest-earner Israelis. The Zionist ideology is the natural contradiction to Marxism and Jamahir: theory.

Thus, the imperialists and Israelis are in one camp but the Soviet Union, Jamahiriya and progressive forces are on the other side. The contradiction between the Soviet Union and the Israelis is not only political but deeply ideological. Also, the political alliance between imperialism and Israelis is a result of the belief in the exploitative capitalist ideology.

As I have already said, analysing these evil forces is not enough. Although these forces were, and are still being, condemned by the United Nations and the whole world and their hostile policies were exposed, they persist in their expansion, aggression and recklessness. We are all fully aware that peace continues to be threatened as long as the Zionist entity exists in occupied Palestine. Peace is being threatened more seriously than ever since this racist entity acquired nuclear weapons. For this became a common knowledge and a confirmed fact.

But, Americans should know that they themselves will become victims of the malicious Zionist deception which dominates American installations. Furthermore, the Jews all over the world are being exploited by Zionism in the name of Judaism, which is innocent of Zionism and its beliefs.

When the Israelis call for Jewish migration from the Soviet Union or any other country, in fact they are calling for their migration to hell -- Zionist hell.

We therefore, urge the Jews throughout the world not to respond to the Zionist calls and deception and not to go to the Zionist hell. Palestine is not a paradise, as Zionists claim. It is hell. The Palestinian guerrillas, to whom the occupied land belongs, are burning the soil from under the feet of the occupiers of Palestine daily and that [as received] the Arab nation will never accept a nuclear Zionist entity to live on its lands.

The Israelis' policies reaffirm daily that the Israeli entity's existence contradicts the existence of the Arab nation. The recognition of this entity and peace agreements with it are absolutely fruitless otherwise peace would have been realised after the treacherous Camp David agreements.

I highly appreciate the presence of friends at this level in the Soviet Union to whom I would like to outline our position and opinion. The Arab region has become a target to the Israelis and the act of piracy by a superpower yesterday, which should respect itself in the world, is complement to the barbaric act of the Israelis against Tunisia, a small peaceful state aggressed upon. America unhesitatingly backed the barbaric Israeli aggression.

This means that imperialism automatically endorses all Israeli acts of aggression. But we tell the Israelis: He who laughs first cries last. The Arabs are not responsible for the security of an entity whose existence contradicts theirs and we are not responsible for Hitler's mistake. Peace will prevail when this poisonous danger, the Israeli entity, is removed from the Middle East. Israeli policy brings always the United States and the Soviet Union to the brink of dangerous confrontation. Nuclear disaster will occur if the Israeli entity continued to exist and persist in its boundless aggression.

Thus we feel we are in the same trench against imperialism and Zionism for world peace. Dear friend, I have followed what you have proposed during your visit to France and my country fully supports this peaceful programme put forward by the Soviet Union which calls for the banning of weapons in space, limiting nuclear arms and the banning of nuclear tests over land.

Libya will be of assistance to the peaceful policies of the Soviet Union on international level and in our region. Thus the cooperation between us, which is further boosted by this visit, is not without foundation. It is a natural result of the mutual objectives of our international stances. We, therefore, believe that this cooperation will continue.

Furthermore, cooperation between our two countries is not seasonal nor commercial. It is based on mutual principles and objectives which link our two countries. It is based on reciprocal respect, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual interests of the two peoples.

Libya is a rich country able to establish commercial relations with any country in the world. But why does Libya come to the Soviet Union? Because there are mutual objectives, Libya and the Soviet Union are fighting on the same side as I have said earlier on.

Dear friend, we are confident that cooperation and friendship will continue. Similarly the Soviet Union is able to have cooperation relations with any country in the world. Libya enjoys this importance for the same reason which made it extend the hand of friendship to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, made a speech in which he welcomed the leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab delegation accompanying him.

Gorbachev stressed that the visit reaffirmed the strong and firm relations linking Jamahiriya and the USSR which are based on principles of mutual respect between the peoples of the two countries.

Mr Gorbachev lauded the achievements realised on Jamahiriya soil thanks to the great 1st September revolution. He said "We are following with great interest the development, in various fields, taking place in Jamahiriya and the building up of the new society."

Mr Gorbachev reasserted the identical viewpoints of the Libyan and Soviet sides in most international acute and important issues. He pointed out that the USSR "lauds the anti-imperialist policies of Jamahiriya, its contribution towards the solution of complicated international problems and the important role it plays in the Non-aligned Movement."

The Soviet leader concluded his address by asserting that the meeting and talks would help in the continuation of strengthening the Libyan-Soviet relations and consolidating the unity of the forces of progress and struggle for international peace and stability.

Al-Qadhdhafi News Conference

NC150825 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Oct 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution met with a group of international journalists and radio and news agency correspondents in Moscow yesterday morning. The brother leader, who was concluding his trip to Moscow, answered journalists' questions on a large number of Arab, African, and world issues and on the outcome of his visit to the Soviet Union.

On Libyan-Soviet relations, the brother leader declared that we have achieved a considerable degree of cooperation, which will serve the interests of both the Libyan and Soviet peoples. He pointed to the signing of a long-term cooperation program as an example.

The brother leader also commented on Israel's act of aggression against Tunis and the recent instance of U.S. piracy. He noted that the Libyan and Soviet delegations reviewed international events, discussing the Israeli raid on Tunis and the aggressive imperialist and Zionist policies which jeopardize world peace and stability.

The brother leader said that the entire world, except for the United States, condemned the Israeli-U.S. [as heard] aggression against Tunis. America was the only country on earth to support the raid from the very beginning. The Soviet Union, he added, was among the first to denounce it.

America's act of piracy is unprecedented for a permanent member of the UN Security Council. It should have used its leverage in that body to hinder such stupid policies. Regrettably, the United States did not stop there. With its piracy and foolish policy, it antagonized the Egyptian people, who destroyed Reagan's picture and burned the American flag. The peoples of the world have supported the Egyptians and unmasked the bellicose intentions underlying U.S. policy. The brother leader added that our earlier statements placing the United States at the forefront of international terrorism have been vindicated. The United States is a country of terror. American policy is irresponsible. It is now an open secret that the United States has just perpetrated what it used to condemn.

Responding to a question on the kidnapping of Soviets in Lebanon, the brother leader emphasized that Libya has strongly condemned the seizure of Soviet citizens and categorized it as an act devised by imperialists and Zionists who want to mar Arab-Soviet relations.

When asked about prospects for peace in the Arab region, the brother leader replied that there is no chance for peace with the Zionist entity, which is totally hostile to the Arab world.

In response to a question on the situation in Chad, the brother leader of the revolution said that Libya is assuming its responsibility before the world and Africa in order to play a decisive role in solving the Chadian problem and establishing peace among the people there. He pointed to Libya's proposal to have its units enter Chad as a peace-loving force [quwwat salam] like the Syrians in Lebanon. Libya will deal with Habre, Goukouni Oueddi, and other Chadians on an equal and impartial basis. He added: If they accept this proposal, Libya will play a decisive role in solving the Chadian problem and in establishing peace among the Chadian people.

He noted that Chad's civil war, which has continued for 20 years, stopped only for the short time that Libyan forces were there. It was Chad's only period of peace. He said that peace in Chad ended with the departure of Libyan forces and the resumption of the civil war. He added that this war gave rise to circumstances that allow foreign intervention in the heart of Africa.

The leader reiterated that Libya is interested in events in Chad and in the danger that the situation there poses to the Chadian people and Africa. Therefore, it proposes that its units enter Chad as a regional peace-keeping force, particularly after France, the United States, Zaire, Egypt, Sudan -- during the rule of the deposed lackey -- and the OAU failed to bring peace to Chad.

When asked about the Iraq-Iran war and whether it was discussed at the Arab Libya-Soviet talks, the leader stressed that the Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union are working to stop this conflict. He said: I believe that this war has reached a point where it is difficult, if not impossible, to reverse its course. He went on to say that in the eyes of the Iranians, the war has approached its final objective. The leader noted that there are countries which have benefited from this war, since it has opened a market for the consumption of arms. This should be taken into consideration.

Gorbachev Accepts Invitation

LD151754 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Oct 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read TASS-attributed report]

[Text] On completing his official, friendly visit to the USSR, Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, has returned to Tripoli. Commenting on al-Qadhafi's news conference held at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center, a Moscow television political observer stressed that the Libyan leader had given a high evaluation of relations between the USSR and Libya, and to the mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries.

A joint communique was adopted on the results of Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi's visit to our country. It stresses that the visit has further strengthened mutual trust between the leaders, and the ties of close friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The Libyan leader expressed to the leaders and people of the Soviet Union cordial gratitude for the warm welcome given to him and the persons accompanying him.

Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi invited Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to pay an official friendly visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The invitation was accepted with thanks. The text of the communique is published in the press.

MALAGASY LEADER'S REACH, MOSCOW STOPOVER REPORTED

Kremlin Luncheon Speech

PM031415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Oct 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] D. Ratsiraka's Speech

We have the great honor to address you today on the occasion of our friendly visit which has enabled us to experience the life of the country of socialism and, in light of our own history, to better evaluate the path it has traveled. This visit has also helped to strengthen our conviction that we have made the right choice. We see your achievements and successes, aware that to attain them you had to overcome obstacles and difficulties which are inherent in every new undertaking; we too will have to overcome them, relying on our experience which still is not very extensive.

We do not lack faith or perseverance, of course. We are not afraid of trials, which our young country has always weathered courageously. And, last but not least, we believe that whatever difficulties may arise, the foundations of socialism which accord with the profound aspirations and the spirit of the Malagasy people have already been laid. Slowly but surely, they have been strengthening with every passing day in the course of the first 10 years during which our people have traveled with new hope along the path of progress, favoring peace.

The aim of our visit is multifaceted, D. Ratsiraka went on to say. We have carried out a high-level, fruitful exchange of opinions. It is no accident that our viewpoints frequently coincide when it is a question of assessing situations in the world connected with events which threaten the fragile stability of the world day by day and which force certain countries and peoples to defend their security with arms. Let me say that this also applies to the Democratic Republic of Madagascar!

However, we have every reason to believe that, given good will, perspicacity, and mutual trust, it is possible to replace saber rattling with a world which would be the result of genuine dialogue and talks between all states. The 21st century will be the era of the underprivileged, of those kept outside the framework of the international community during the current century.

The Malagasy president urged people to consider it their sacred duty to support efforts aimed at the controlled reduction of mass destruction weapons; the creation of nuclear-free zones and in particular, the proclamation of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace; the settlement of all conflicts unleashed in many parts of the world in order to paralyze "Third World" countries; the complete and definitive eradication of all forms of racism, segregation, and oppression; and the renunciation by all states of all imperialist, expansionist, and hegemonist aspirations.

D. Ratsiraka said the Democratic Republic of Madagascar supports all peace-loving initiatives, especially those of the Soviet Union, and all proposals for honest, frank, and confidential talks aimed at achieving progress on the road to genuine peace.

There is much real evidence testifying to the clear and precise stance taken by the Soviet Union every time there has been a question of assisting a given country in its struggle against colonialism, racial segregation, racism, or Zionism.

You have never refused to side with the oppressed. The era of the struggle for political liberation has virtually ended. The stage of economic liberation has begun, and we know that we can count on the Soviet Union in this truly humanitarian cause.

Your country has shown us solidarity not just in the political sphere or in diplomatic struggle, this solidarity is also evident in the economic and financial spheres.

The example of my country can be used to convincingly refute the idle fabrications of those who claim that the USSR's cooperation with "Third World" countries consists merely of providing them with military aid.

It appears that our countries do not have the right to establish their own defense forces to cool the heads of certified aggressors. After all, it is well-known that the armed forces which we are establishing are neither offensive in nature, nor intended to cause concern among our neighbors or destabilize the situation.

We are a country which is open to all. We do not grant privileges to anyone at the expense of others; we strive for honest cooperation. We only oppose those who flout people's legitimate rights.

We would like to pay tribute to your government and the entire Soviet people for the substantial and fruitful contribution they have made to our efforts aimed at economic development. A great deal has been done. New projects are being discussed. We do not doubt that the warmth of our friendly relations and the mutual respect which we have for each other will lead to new successes in the building of socialism in our country. Much remains to be done.

We are very pleased at the fact that every time the opportunity presents itself, we are listened to attentively and shown understanding, which enables us to jointly discuss Madagascar's problems and also the prospects for our relations.

Long live the Soviet Union!

Long live peace!

Long live the friendship and solidarity between the Soviet and the Malagasy peoples!

Ratsiraka Cable to Gromyko

PM031321 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Oct Morning Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

After an exceptionally pleasant stay in your beautiful capital, where we were accorded a welcome worthy of the friendship linking our peoples, allow me to express to you and, through you, to the Soviet Government my most sincere gratitude. The friendly conversations which we had with you and the leaders of various Soviet ministries and departments will, I am firmly convinced, make it possible to strengthen the cooperation which so happily exists between our countries.

With the greatest respect,
Didier Ratsiraka,
President of Madagascar

Ratsiraka Stopover in Moscow

PM141143 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Stopover in Moscow"]

[Text] Didier Ratsiraka, president of Madagascar and general secretary of the Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution Party, made a stopover in Moscow 11 October en route from the DPRK. He was met and seen off at the airport by A.U. Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; other officials; F. Randriamamonjy, Malagasy ambassador to the USSR, and Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR.

Ratsiraka Thanks Gromyko

PM150956 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "From the Aircraft"]

[Text] President Didier Ratsiraka of Madagascar has sent A.A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, a telegram from aboard his aircraft. It says:

On leaving the territory of the fraternal Soviet people, I am particularly glad to convey through you to the country's leadership and the entire Soviet people sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity. I am leaving your country confident in the shining future of our peoples, who are more than ever resolved to step up the struggle for the onset of an era of peace and progress. I again express sincere and profound gratitude for the warm fraternal welcome extended to me, my wife, and the Malagasy delegation.

GREETINGS EXCHANGED ON GUINEA NATIONAL HOLIDAY

PM141142 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers have sent General Lansana Conte, Guinea president and head of state and government, a telegram congratulating the president, the Guinea Government, and the entire Guinea people on the country's national holiday -- the 27th anniversary of independence.

We wish the industrious Guinea people and their leadership, the telegram says, further successes in economic, social, and cultural building and express confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Guinea will continue to develop fruitfully and grow stronger for the good of our countries' peoples, in the interests of the struggle against imperialism and colonialism, for the removal of the threat of nuclear war, and for the sake of universal peace and progress on earth.

In a reply telegram L. Conte expressed ardent gratitude for the congratulations and sent the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government wishes for new successes in building a harmonious, strong, and prosperous society. The telegram reaffirms the sincere desire to give new scope to the relations of fruitful cooperation which exist between the two countries.

USSR FLOTILLA ENDS VISIT TO CUBA 16 OCT

LD161453 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0751 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Havana, 16 Oct (TASS) -- The official friendly visit to the port of the Cuban capital by a detachment of Soviet warships, comprising the destroyer [bolshoy protivolodochnyy korabl] "Slavnyy," the frigate [storozhevoy] "Silnyy," a diesel submarine and a tanker under the command of Rear Admiral M.G. Putintsev, has ended.

The commander of the detachment was received by General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, candidate member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and (?first) deputy minister for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic, and Oscar Fernandez Mell, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Assembly of People's Power in the Havana City Province.

Rear Admiral Jose L. Cuza Tellez-Hiron, candidate member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and commander of the Revolutionary Navy, went on board the Soviet ships.

The Soviet sailors laid a wreath at the memorial to Cuban national hero Jose Marti and visited the Mariel Naval Academy. They also had meetings with veterans and servicemen of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and with the working people of Havana.

At a press conference, Rear Admiral M.G. Putintsev noted the warm and cordial nature of the meetings on Cuban soil.

U.S. DEVISING 'DIRECT INTERVENTION' PLAN FOR NICARAGUA

LD161642 Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Managua, October 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent S. Gorbunov reports:

According to reports reaching here, the U.S. Administration is devising a plan of a direct American intervention in Nicaragua. The Pentagon has drawn up a plan of invasion, code-named "Oplan", projecting the seizure of Nicaragua's main political, military and industrial structures and also establishment of control over all transport routes and communications both inside the country and with other states.

According to this information, the U.S. might use as a pretext for its armed invasion of Nicaragua a strike of Nicaragua's Armed Forces on bases of counterrevolutionary forces on the territory of Honduras in reply to their provocative actions or "the need of protecting" the U.S. embassy in a Central American country which would provocatively be subjected to a terrorist attack "from Managua". And then, the United States under the pretext of rendering assistance would invade Nicaragua's territory.

The Pentagon, the American press writes, has at its disposal various variants of that plan's implementation and combat units at the ready who have already rehearsed their missions within the framework of numerous manoeuvres in direct proximity of Nicaragua's frontiers. The government of Nicaragua has announced the prolongation for one year of the state of emergency in the country now that the U.S. heightened its undeclared war and internal reaction intensified its subversive activity against the Sandinist people's revolution. At a press conference held here President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega has emphasized that the measure is called upon to cut short "the CIA's attempts to use ultra right-wing, leftish and religious elements inside the country for destabilization of people's power".

All diplomatic and political efforts which were undertaken by the government of Nicaragua, the Contadora Group countries and other peaceful states, he said, have not had any effect on Washington. The United States is toughening terror against Nicaragua, and it does not conceal plans of overthrowing the government elected by the people.

The U.S. Administration is conducting a criminal war against Nicaragua through the forces of mercenaries which are at the service of the CIA. Under the pretext of unending manoeuvres, American ground troops and naval forces are being deployed for combat around the republic, threatening it with direct armed intervention. The U.S. Department of State openly sabotages the granting of credits to Nicaragua by international financial organizations. Threats, false propaganda, political campaigns with a view of intimidating, discrediting and isolating revolutionary Nicaragua are continuing unabated.

The United States, said Daniel Ortega, has resorted to a criminal trade blockade of the republic, which aggravates the living conditions of the people, difficult as they are, seeking to break by starvation their will to freedom and independence. In the face of that insolent aggression the Nicaraguan people display staunchness and the Sandinist people's revolution is continuing progressive movement. Nicaragua is paying dearly for its independence. Thousands of patriots fell victim to the bloody terror of mercenaries or died, defending the motherland. Tens of thousands of families were compelled to leave native [words indistinct] session. The damage inflicted upon the economy runs into hundreds of millions of dollars.

All patriotic forces of Nicaragua are now preparing for a voluntary labour campaign to harvest coffee, cotton and sugar cane. The [word indistinct] of the republic, despite economic difficulties, is taking steps to reduce prices of essentials. It is conducting relentless struggle against speculation. The agrarian reform plans are being speedily carried out for the Nicaraguan peasant to become master of his own land.

Now that the mercenary army has suffered defeats and shown signs of obvious demoralization, said Daniel Ortega, the United States is trying to regroup the mercenary gangs, preparing new aggressive acts against the people and the government of Nicaragua. Washington has got down to distribution 27 million dollars amid counterrevolutionaries, supplying them with weapons and other military equipment.

American imperialism has resumed its attempts to torpedo the Contadora Group's activities aimed at signing a balanced agreement between Central American countries. Representatives of the U.S. Department of State openly declare hostile plans against Nicaragua. Provocations are continuing on frontiers of the republic and new, even more dangerous acts of aggression are being planned.

Supporting the terrorist policy of American imperialism, its allies and agents inside the country which are hiding in the ranks of some political parties, in mass media and religious organizations, are intensifying designs aimed at undermining the armed defence of the motherland, at undermining economic policy. The government and the people of Nicaragua will not allow realization with impunity of destabilization and sabotage actions which are being directed by the U.S. Administration.

All efforts of the people and the state, stressed the Nicaraguan leader, should be aimed at inflicting a crushing defeat upon the enemies of the revolution in the military, political and economic fields. This is in with the vital interests of the people. Proceeding from this, the Nicaraguan Government took the decision to introduce the state of emergency.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON NEW PARTY DOCUMENTS

PM161900 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Program of acceleration"]

[Text] The policy of our Leninist party expresses the consciousness, thoughts, aspirations, and hopes of the Soviet people. This historic truth was reaffirmed by the CPSU Central Committee Plenum held 15 October. After hearing a report by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the Plenum examined and approved the drafts of the new edition of the CPSU program, prepared in accordance with the instructions of the 26th Party Congress, of changes to the CPSU rules, and of the basic guidelines for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the period through the year 2000.

These are documents of tremendous historical importance. They concern the Soviet Communists' program aims, focal questions of the party's general line and economic strategy, and forms and methods of work among the masses at the present, an exceptionally complex and crucial period of history, which in many respects -- from both the domestic and the international viewpoints -- is in the nature of a turning point.

On the basis of a thorough analysis of the prevailing situation in the country and the world the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the conference at the Central Committee on questions of scientific and technical progress put forward and substantiated a detailed concept of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. The aim and essence of that concept is to achieve a new qualitative state of Soviet society. The party is today putting this concept of acceleration before the people and is taking it to the next, 27th congress. "The acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development," M.S. Gorbachev said at the October Central Committee Plenum, "is called for to ensure a materially and spiritually rich and socially dynamic life for Soviet people under conditions of peace and to reveal even more fully and vividly the potential and advantages of the civilization of the historically new type embodied by the socialist system."

The fact that serious objective economic and social shifts have taken place in our country in the last 25 years is indisputable. These required profound analysis. It was necessary to detail immediate and long-term goals, to determine ways of achieving them, and to find new approaches toward the party's organizational, socioeconomic, and ideological activity. The international situation also required clarified program goals. The changes in the disposition of forces that are taking place both in the class, social respect and surrounding the struggle for the affirmation of the principle of peace as a universal norm in interstate and all international relations required scientific Marxist-Leninist interpretation. It was necessary not only to sum up what has been done and accomplished but also to define a clear, valid prospect for actions in the name of man and peace on earth.

Continuity of the CPSU's fundamental theoretical and political goals was ensured in the course of this work. Our party again demonstrated its theoretical principledness and consistency and its loyalty to Marxism-Leninism. The CPSU would not enjoy such high prestige in the world communist movement and such trust among Soviet people if it did not treat its own political conclusions and theoretical assessments with due responsibility.

Consistency and continuity in theory certainly do not deny but necessarily presuppose its creative development and its enrichment with principled propositions in accordance with historical experience. We now have a better and more precise idea of ways of improving socialism and achieving our program aim -- Communism. All this had to be and was reflected in the main theoretical and political party document. At the same time the formulas that had not stood the test of time were critically reinterpreted.

In its present edition the third party program, the Plenum noted, is a clear and precise statement of what our party is seeking and what it is fighting for. The document is based on marxist-leninist theory and on a realistic analysis of the processes taking place inside the country and in the world arena and provides a precise and detailed description of strategic directions in the work of the party, the Soviet state, and the whole people on the basis of the communist future of the country's development. It is a program for the systematic and comprehensive improvement of socialism and Soviet society's further advance toward communism on the basis of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. It is a program of the struggle for peace and social progress.

The party proceeds from the premise that there is no, nor can there be any, sharp demarcation between the two phases of the single communist formation. It is impossible directly, bypassing socialism, to make the transition to the highest phase of Communism, just as it is incorrect to represent socialism as an independent [samostoyatelnyy] formation. The development of socialism into Communism is determined by the objective laws of society's development. Any attempts at jumping the gun and introducing communist principles regardless of the level of society's material and spiritual maturity are doomed to fail, as experience shows. But tardiness in implementing urgent transformations and resolving new tasks is also impermissible.

It was repeatedly emphasized at the plenum that the new edition of the program has enriched the description of the historic achievements and advantages of socialism as a higher stage of human progress than capitalism. It maps out the contours which our society must attain in the economic, social, and political spheres and in spiritual life. The attainment of a qualitatively new condition of Soviet society through the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development -- this is the formula expressing the essence of the CPSU's present-day course.

The party proceeds from the economy's decisive role in society's development. Its economic strategy is determined in view of the further deepening of the scientific and technical revolution and is aimed at transformations on a truly historic scale -- the implementation of a new technical reconstruction of the national economy, its transition to intensive tracks of development, and the Soviet economy's attainment of the highest level of organization and efficiency. It is planned to create over the next 15 years an economic potential approximately equal in size to the potential accumulated during all the previous years of Soviet power. And all this is for the sake of man, for the benefit of man.

The Central Committee plenum noted the fundamental significance of a socially strong policy encompassing the entire span of people's life -- from their working, everyday living, health, and leisure conditions to social-class and national relations. The party looks upon social policy as a powerful means of accelerating the country's economic development and boosting the labor and sociopolitical activeness of the masses and as an important factor of society's political stability, of the shaping of the new man, and of the affirmation of the socialist way of life.

The CPSU attaches paramount significance to the development of Soviet society's political system and the increasingly full implementation of socialist self-management by the people. It was again emphasized with the utmost force at the Central Committee Plenum that we will not be able to advance successfully without expanding and deepening socialist democracy in every possible way and without creating the conditions for daily, active, and effective participation by all working people and their collectives and organizations in solving questions of state and social life. The initiative, energy, and living creativity of the masses and their conscientious and motivated attitude toward the tasks of creating the new system -- this is what Lenin saw and the party sees as the main source of socialism's strength and vitality.

The expansion of true people's power assumes even greater significance in the light of the extremely complex tasks in the spheres of production, culture, and management toward which the party is orienting us. Every real step in expanding publicity, intensifying control from below, and deepening democratic principles in the activity of all state and public organizations is valuable. We must make maximum use of the democratic nature of socialism and its vital need to draw on the creativity of the masses.

The program goals in the sphere of ideological work are inseparately linked with the acceleration of socioeconomic development. People must be educated in the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, educated by means of truthful words and real deeds, with political education and ideological influence being combined with the working people's ever-expanding participation in the solution of economic and social questions and in the management of the state and of production and social affairs. The human factor, without which none of the set tasks can be resolved, can be activated only by means of a well thought-out economic strategy, strong social policy, and purposeful ideological education work, taken in their indissoluble unity.

The plenum noted the importance of reflecting sufficiently fully in the program the fundamental trends of world development. There is the further strengthening of the positions of real socialism, the growth of its prestige and influence, and the enhancement of the role played by the peoples' masses advocating the renewal of life on the basis of fair principles; there is also the increasing opposition to positive changes in the world from the reactionary and aggressive forces of imperialism; there is also the strengthening of the potential of peace which unites the socialist countries, the international communist and workers movement, dozens of young independent states, and the broad antiwar democratic movements. It is their collaboration that determines the general direction of world development in our time.

International development has reached a line which cannot be crossed without making supremely responsible decisions aimed at ending the arms race and stopping the slide into war. These decisions cannot be postponed without running the risk of losing control of dangerous processes that threaten mankind's very existence. Curbing the forces of militarism and war and ensuring lasting peace and reliable security are the fundamental problem of the day.

We can be firmly confident that all progressive forces will see our party's program as an expression of the Soviet people's invariable solidarity with their struggle, of our respect for their views and positions, and of our desire to promote the strengthening of their unity -- that dialectical unity of diversity which encompasses the whole living fabric of the real socialist world, the workers, communist, and national liberation movements, and all movements against reaction and aggression and for peace and progress.

The basic guidelines for the economic and social development of the country are called for to materialize the provisions of the CPSU program and translate them into specific plan targets applicable to such a crucial stage as the 12th 5-Year Plan and the period ~~through the year 2000~~. It is how rapidly intensification, the switch to efficiency, and the new technical reconstruction of the national economy are implemented that the scaling of the planned heights by the third millennium depends.

It is only possible to scale these heights through intensive labor whose productivity must improve by 230-250 percent. Specific deeds by each Soviet person and each labor collective are now particularly necessary. Historical experience convincingly attests that the loftiest dream of the people's happiness remains just a noble dream if it fails to win the hearts and minds of millions. Advanced ideas that become the property of the masses turn into the mighty driving force of progress.

The scale, depth, and complexity of the tasks being resolved in both domestic and international policy, it was said at the CPSU Central Committee Plenum, make new high demands on the standard of party leadership and dictate the need for new approaches to all aspects of party work. Naturally, all this must be reflected in the CPSU rules -- the party's fundamental law and our party code of life. To put it briefly, the purport of the proposed changes to the rules is, on the one hand, to further expand democracy within the party and develop the initiative and activeness of communists and all party organizations, and, on the other hand, to increase their responsibility for resolving common matters. The more varied and the fuller intraparty life is and the more profound democratism in resolving all key questions -- from admission to the party to cadre policy -- is, the stronger and more effective the party's influence on all social processes will be.

Guided by the Leninist traditions of the party's constant link with the masses and reliance on the masses, the CPSU Central Committee Plenum resolved to publish the drafts of the most important party documents in the press for discussion in the party, labor collectives, and the broadest sections of the country's population. And now the immense work of discussing, propagandizing, and explaining the drafts of the new party program, the changes to the CPSU rules, and the basic guidelines is starting, everyone must prepare for this work, it must be businesslike and constructive in nature and must be closely linked with the resolution of the specific current and long-term tasks facing labor collectives. The Soviets of people's deputies -- genuinely democratic organs of power linked in the closest way to all sections of the country's population -- have a great role to play in this work.

NEW GOSPLAN CHIEF'S CAREER SKETCHED

PM161201 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 85 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed "biographical sketch": "Nikolay Vladimirovich Talyzin, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the USSR Gosplan"]

[Text] Nikolay Vladimirovich Talyzin was born in 1929, he is a Russian and has been a member of the CPSU since 1960.

He is a graduate of the Moscow electrical engineering communications institute, a doctor of technical sciences, and a professor.

He began his career in 1944 as a fitter and then worked as a technical designer. After graduation he was an engineer, chief designer, senior scientific worker, and scientific research institute deputy chief. In 1965-1975 he was USSR deputy and then first deputy minister of communications. In October 1980 N.V. Talyzin was appointed deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR's CEMA representative.

At the 25th party congress he was elected a Central Committee candidate member and at the 26th congress was elected member of the CPSU Central Committee. He is a USSR Supreme Soviet deputy. He has won two USSR State Prizes. He has received the Orders of Lenin, the October Revolution, and the Labor Red Banner and medals.

NIKONOV, OTHERS ATTEND CONGRESS OF FISHERY KOLKHOZES

PM161451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "In the Spirit of the Demands of the Time"]

[Excerpts] The constituent congress of plenipotentiary representatives of the country's fishery kolkhozes opened in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions in Moscow 14 October.

In the congress presidium were V. P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.A. Arkov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Section; senior officials of central establishments and departments, pacemakers and innovators in the sector, and representatives of public organizations.

The agenda was approved unanimously: on the formation of the All-Union Association of Fishery Kolkhozes and the tasks of the fishery kolkhoz system in fulfilling the USSR Food Program, the approval of the statute on the association, the making of additions and changes to the model rules of the fishery kolkhoz, the amendment of the procedure for deducting assets into the centralized and local funds governing financial aid to fishery kolkhozes, and the election of the association's board and the auditing commission.

The report was delivered by V.M. Kamentsev, USSR minister of fish industry.

The congress will continue its work 15 October.

GORBACHEV SPEECHES PUBLISHED AS BROCHURES

LD162125 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] A brochure has been published called: Siberia -- an Accelerated Pace [Sibir -- Uskorenniy Shag]. It contains Comrade Gorbachev's speech at the meeting of party and economic activists of Tyumen and Tomsk Oblasts on 6 September this year.

The text of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speech to the meeting of the party and economic activists of Kazakhstan oblasts, the krais and oblasts of Siberia, and the Urals on 7 September, has been published as a separate brochure: To Increase Food Resources [Narashchivat Prodovolstvenniye Resursy].

The brochures have been put out by the publishing house Politicheskaya Literatura.

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON DRAFT PLANS

PM101251 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 2 Oct 85 p 2

[Interview with G. Stroganov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan, by Yu. Chaplygin under the rubric "Restructuring of Management: Practice and Problems": "In Step With the Spirit of the Times; First paragraph is SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA introduction]

[Text] In industry the elaboration of the draft annual plan and the draft 5-year plan is being completed. Yu. Chaplygin, SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA economic and propaganda section editor, talks to G. Stroganov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan, about the reorganization which is under way in sectorial ministries and the measures which they have outlined in order to fulfill the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the Conference on Questions of Accelerating Scientific and Technical Progress.

[Chaplygin] Genrikh Borisovich, what are the distinguishing features of the preparation of the drafts of the annual and 5-year plans?

[Stroganov] During the elaboration of the draft plans, two tasks of fundamental importance were at the focus of attention, namely: fuller satisfaction of the national economy's growing needs; and a radical improvement of the technical standard, quality, and competitiveness of products, especially machine building products. In order to resolve these tasks, a great deal of work has been carried out in defining the main areas of progressive structural changes in production. Their aim is to raise the level of mechanization and automation of production processes and to create the necessary organizational and technical conditions for a rapid switch to the production of new generations of machinery, equipment, and instruments.

Another important feature is the sharp focus of planning work on ensuring the rational and economic utilization of all types of resources, primarily on the basis of low-waste and waste-free technologies, the utilization of new structural materials, extensive use of secondary resources, and a reduction of the materials-intensiveness of products.

As of next year, all machine building enterprises will operate under new management conditions. This circumstance has made it necessary for central and sectorial planning organ workers to carry out an in-depth revision of the traditional forms and methods of planning and embark on a quest for new solutions providing for a reinforcement of contractual discipline and an accelerated application of scientific and technical achievements.

[Chaplygin] What main guidelines did the USSR Gosplan give to machine building ministries for the elaboration of the draft plans?

[Stroganov] The first guideline was to elaborate production plans which would ensure the production of a sufficient quantity of products to carry out the retooling of existing enterprises and to equip new capacities. Taking into account, of course, deliveries of machines and equipment from CEMA countries.

The second guideline was to ensure that machine building industry output increases at a higher preferential rate than the output growth rate of industry as a whole. Not an easy task, to be frank. In the coming 5-year period it will be necessary to sharply increase machine building industry output in comparison with the current 5-year period.

How? Primarily through the development of key machine building sectors -- machine tool building, instrument making, and the electrical engineering industry.

The third guideline was to accelerate the application of scientific developments at least two- to three-fold. On this basis, substantial structural changes in machine building are to be drawn up to create the preconditions for a rapid switch of its sectors to the production of advanced generations of machines, equipment, and instruments. Special attention must be focused on the accelerated development of the production of specialized technological equipment for our own needs. Within the next 5 years, output of this kind of equipment will be increased several-fold.

The fourth guideline was to further develop specialization and expand production sharing in the machine building industry. Above all it is necessary to develop enterprises which produce electronic equipment and also assembly and machine assembly type plants. But this must be done in conjunction with narrowly specialized plants for the production of components, subassemblies and units for sector and intersector use.

I would like to mention another guideline, the guideline to develop and introduce into production, equipment and technological processes based on the use of new types of energy, laser equipment, and less energy-intensive, waste-free technologies. These in particular are to account for the greater part of resource savings.

[Chaplygin] At the CPSU Central Committee Conference on Questions of drafting plans for the country's economic and social development in 1986 and the 12th 5-Year Plan, the special importance of the preparation of the draft plan for the first, initial year of the 5-year plan was emphasized. That year is to be the beginning of a crucial stage in the practical implementation of the party's directives to achieve a radical breakthrough in the development of the economy. From this viewpoint the elaboration of the new annual plan represents a kind of skill test for economic cadres in reorganizing the methods and style of their work in practical terms. To what extent are the ministries' draft plans in step with the spirit of the times?

[Stroganov] In their draft annual plans ministries have set higher targets than in the current 5-year plan for mastering the production of new types of products, improving the technical standard and quality of goods, enhancing labor productivity growth and the utilization of basic resources, and renewing fixed production assets. I must say that the measures outlined, on the whole, correspond to the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers directives for accelerating scientific and technical progress and steering a course toward intensification. In particular, machine builders have fixed a commodity output growth rate for the coming year which is substantially above the average industrial production development rate.

Substantial structural changes are also planned. For instance, in machine tool building the proportion of progressive types of equipment will be doubled. The production of manual control universal equipment will be sharply reduced, while the production of special-purpose technological equipment will increase 50 percent.

The production of new types of computer systems based on microprocessors, a single standard series of economic electric motors, and electric freight locomotives with a regenerative braking system is to be increased sharply. The scale of the production and deliveries of modular sets of equipment and equipment with a higher unit-capacity is to be increased. The production of machines and equipment to be used in conjunction with high-powered tractors, in soil protection work and in intensive farming, and for feed preparation is to be increased. The production of several dozen types of new agricultural machines is to be mastered.

Draft annual plan calculations show, for instance, that the introduction of resource-saving equipment and planned organizational measures will enable Ministry of Power Machine Building enterprises to save just under 17,000 metric tons of ferrous rolled metal; Ministry of Electrical Equipment Industry enterprises, 71,000 metric tons, and Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building enterprises, 74,000 metric tons. The savings obtained through lower prime cost of output, enhanced technical standard of production, and introduction of scientific and technical achievements into the machine building industry as a whole will exceed R1.1 million. Furthermore, the labor of almost 200,000 people will be saved.

[Chaplygin] The main criterion in assessing each ministry's draft plan is the degree to which it conforms to the targets outlined in the draft main guidelines for the country's economic and social development. In what ministries does planning work not conform to this criterion, and who are still proceeding from old positions, demanding more resources and setting understated plans?

[Stroganov] The USSR Gosplan did not agree to the proposals of the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, Ministry of the Automotive Industry, Ministry of Power Machine Building, and Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building to set a lower ceiling on expenditure per ruble of output than that set in the control figures [sentence as published]. The first three ministries were proposing easier targets for expenditure of ferrous rolled metal per unit of output. It must be said frankly that not all ministries are drawing up serious measures to utilize reserves for saving metal through the use of powders, spray coating, precision-rolling and precision-forging technology, and shaping in a state of superplasticity.

In my view certain sectors are setting themselves too modest tasks in labor productivity growth. This applies to the Ministry of the Automobile Industry, Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, and Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry. Incidentally, at these ministries' enterprises losses of working time due to absenteeism, a high cadre turnover, and stoppages are still too great. At the Ministry of the Automotive Industry and Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building sufficiently vigorous action is not being taken to get equipment, especially imported equipment, assembled and installed so that it can be utilized. Another cause of concern is the fact that sectorial scientific research institutes still do not plan extensive contacts with institutes of the USSR and union republic academies of sciences and research organizations of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education for the purpose of joint development of equipment on the basis of the fundamental scientific and technical know-how which these institutions have accumulated. Obsolete and worn out equipment is not being written off on a sufficiently large scale.

[Chaplygin] What measures is the USSR Gosplan taking to improve the standard of planning work?

[Stroganov] The measures adopted are, above all, of an economic nature. The system of planned indicators has been improved and refined. Its application subordinates to the plan the work of sectorial ministries, associations, and enterprises in accelerating scientific and technical progress. In particular, the number of planned indicators in the section "Development of Science and Technology" has been reduced. Only machinery which ensures labor productivity increases of at least 50-100 percent, reductions of metal inputs per unit of output of at least 7-10 percent, and savings of fuel and energy resources of 8-12 percent is to be included in the plan.

It is planned to link qualitative indicators for the most important types of output to the scale on which they are produced. For this purpose, the following indicators have, for instance, been introduced. The proportion of machines, equipment, and instruments automated by means of microcomputer technology in the volume of output of most important types of products (according to the product list). The reduction of specific metal-intensiveness per unit of useful parameter will also be included in the plan. Indicators have also been introduced which define the renewal rate of output. They specify the proportion of products that are being produced for the first time and the proportion of products put into production within the previous 3 years.

I must mention that the plan under the heading "Development of Science and Technology" was elaborated considerably ahead of other sections of the plan for which it forms the basis. And these targets will be just as binding for ministries and enterprises as the production plan itself. It is necessary, with the help of the system of planned indicators and normatives, to accelerate in every way the development of new machinery, machinery geared to the future, and to ensure the introduction and assimilation into production of scientific and technical progress achievements.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that machine builders, just like workers in other industrial sectors, have mounted a labor vigil for the successful completion of the current year and the 5-year plan. They widely support the initiative of the AVTOVAZ collective and are actively preparing to greet the 27th congress of our party with new success in the intensification of production and the enhancement of its efficiency.

DRASTIC CUT IN SOVIET OIL EXPORTS TO WEST EXPECTED

AU1011110 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 10 Oct 85 p 7

[Text] International oil business quarters are now expecting that Soviet oil deliveries to the West this coming winter might be as much as 70 percent below the normal level. Following first reports about cuts in Soviet deliveries, a decline by 50 percent at the most had been expected. In the meantime, however, it has been established that the Soviets have had to help out with oil deliveries in the East Bloc, since most of the CEMA countries have oil contracts with Iran which now apparently cannot be fulfilled because of the damages at the Khark oil loading installation.

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL DISCUSSES CONSUMER GOODS, SERVICES

LD122253 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 12 Oct 85

[Interview with Aleksandr Borisovich Masalskiy, deputy head of a subdepartment of the USSR Gosplan, by correspondent Irina Starchukova; introduced by program editor Vakov Belitskiy; date and place not specified -- recorded]

[Text] [Belitskiy] As you know, comrades, a few days ago a Comprehensive Program on the Development of Consumer Goods Production and Service Sector for 1986-2000 was published in the newspapers. It is important to note that it is the first time such a program has been drawn up. It is designed to introduce serious changes in satisfying the growing needs of the working people. Tackling the tasks set in this document will be at the center of the attention of party, administrative, and economic organs and, of course, its success will depend on the quality of work of everyone, on how labor and production discipline is organized.

Taking part in our program today is Aleksandr Borisovich Masalskiy, deputy head of a subdepartment of the USSR Gosplan and learned secretary of the USSR Gosplan's inter-departmental commission on developing this program. Correspondent Irina Starchukova is interviewing him.

[Masalskiy] The Comprehensive Program on the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service Sector for 1986-2000 holds an important place among the major measures aimed at further raising the well-being of the Soviet people, at satisfying the population's effective demand, which has increased sharply in the past few years and at achieving a better balance [usileniye sbalansirovannosti] in the economy.

The program lays down ways to tackle the major tasks in satisfying the population's mounting needs for goods and services and for strengthening the material and technical base of the appropriate branches of the national economy. Instructions have been given for drawing up and implementing measures to further refine the economic mechanism and to heighten the responsibility and economic incentive of ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations for accelerating the development of consumers goods production and services. With the growth in the population's income, the population's needs are expanding and being enriched and entirely new needs are making their appearance. These new needs are connected with the spiritual life, the widening of the range of interests, and the population's aspiration to see and know its country and to live in more comfortable conditions. This requires the development of all types of services for the population.

[Starchukova] It is known that the development of the services sphere is at a lower level than the development of consumer goods production and that the services sphere is therefore facing somewhat different tasks.

[Masalskiy] Yes, that is quite true. Whereas in the realm of the development of consumer goods production the chief attention, alongside with increasing the volume of production, has been directed toward decisively raising quality and timely renewing and widening the range of goods, in the realm of the development of the services sphere the task is being brought to the fore of getting a whole range of branches in the services sphere, which have fallen behind, to catch up with the population's sharply increased effective demand. The task is to bring services closer to the points of the population's mass demand more consistently. These tasks must be tackled both as a better thought-out system of siting enterprises, of involving industrial, building, transport, and other enterprises and organizations in these types of activity and as the development of mobile systems of providing services for the population, which have been furnished with the necessary specialized transport.

The population is now exerting an increased demand for services in the sphere of tourism, leisure, car servicing, and for repair and building and other services that restore the consumer properties of articles. Also, of course, demands for the quality and standard of services are being raised.

[Starchukova] Aleksandr Borisovich, let us talk in somewhat greater detail about services.

[Masalskiy] When we speak of chargeable services, we think first of all of dry-cleaning laundries, and so on. In actual fact, however, this list is considerably wider and this precisely is stated in the recently adopted decision of the USSR Council of Ministers. This document provides for an expansion of chargeable services to the population, which are being rendered by enterprises and organizations, not by specialized ones, but for which the rendering of these services is not the main activity. For instance, all works, factories, enterprises, organizations, building sites, and so on will, without exception, be recruited to provide services.

[Starchukova] Let us take new settlers moving into a new flat. What services can the works provide them with when they are moving? Will it be possible to provide them with transport?

[Masalskiy] Yes, of course! At an enterprise or in an organization, there is some departmental transport and a worker who needs to receive this transport for moving will order transport at the enterprise. Charges will, of course, be made for this service.

[Starchukova] Do you have to work at the enterprise to make use of this service or is it available to anyone?

[Masalskiy] What the decision provides for is precisely that these services will be available not only to the workers of the enterprise but also to all citizens. It is a matter not only of transport. Enterprises and organizations can offer the most varied services, for instance, involving the repairs of domestic appliances and dwellings, services involving the building of cooperative garages and outbuildings for horticultural associations, and involving the technical servicing and repairing of means of transport, services of institutions of culture, physical culture and sport, sanatorium, resort, and health establishments, tourism, and others. From next year on, plan tasks for the provision of chargeable services to the population will be set for all enterprises and organizations.

CSA REPORTS INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE FIGURES FOR SEP

PM151221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-Union Competition Diary": "Groundwork for the Future"]

[Excerpt] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that throughout industry as a whole the growth rates for production and labor productivity were somewhat increased in September. The collectives of a number of sectors of machine building coped successfully with the month's plan targets for the sale of output. Special note should be made of the fulfillment of this indicator by the Ministry of the Coal Industry. For many months its subdivisions were among those in arrears to consumers, but they have managed to organize their work better and to overcome their shortfall. It is important that miners should not be content with what they have achieved but should continue to improve production on the basis of scientific-technical progress and ensure a steady increase in daily coal extraction.

In September the targets were exceeded for the extraction of gas and the production of turbines, metal cutting machine tools, instruments, automation equipment and computer equipment, automobiles, tractors, and many consumer goods and foodstuffs.

But a number of industrial sectors are still allowing shortcomings in planning and organizing production and labor emulation. It is largely for these reasons that less output than planned was produced and soled in September by associations of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, and the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry. The labor collectives of light industry worked unsatisfactorily last month, allowing a lag in the production of linen and silk textiles and individual necessities.

The lagging collectives must increase their efforts to scale the planned heights by the end of the year. It is essential to increase substantially the daily production of output and to improve its quality.

Socialist competition must be directed toward achieving the priority goals: improving the pace and quality of work; ensuring the saving of all types of resources, and increasing responsibility for the matter at hand.

The country's industry is working in the concluding quarter of the year and of the 5-year plan. It is a matter of honor for every collective to act today to fulfill all plan targets unconditionally, to create a good quantity of groundwork for successful work in the forthcoming 5-year period, and to fittingly greet the 27th CPSU Congress.

RSFSR'S NORTHERN RIVERS DREDGED TO AID MINING

LD162305 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow, October 16 TASS -- The work to improve the navigable capacity of smaller rivers has been completed in the Komi Autonomous Republic, the USSR's North European part. TASS learned at the Russian Federation's River Fleet Ministry that over 400 kilometers of the Pechora tributaries and other shallow rivers became navigable due to dredging and the construction of wharfs.

The need for such transformations was prompted by the emergence and development of a new industrial region in the Komi Autonomous Republic, named Timan Pechyorskiy. It is bounded by the rocky Timan ridge in the west and by the Barents Sea Bay in the north. The place is known for its deposits of oil, natural gas, coal, iron ore, titanium and bauxite ores, potash salt and other minerals. However, their development was hindered by the lack of reliable transport routes. The Moscow-Vorkuta railway line, which runs for 140 km through marshes and tundra, could barely handle the growing freight traffic. But now rivers will help to ease the strain on the railway.

The region's main asset is oil, which has low content of paraffin and sulphur. In the new town of Usinsk, centre of the oil-rich region, a retort for oil from the first 100,000,000 tons was bricked up in 1984 along with a letter addressed to those who are believed to reach the 200,000,000 ton mark already in the 1990's.

The coal mined on the territory of the Timan-Pechyorskiy complex, gives the country's best coke. Every hour train loads of coal from Vorkuta and Inta are brought into steel and iron mills. The "northern lights" pipeline is taking increasingly larger volumes of gas from the Vuktylskiy oil field to Moscow and the western borders. High concentration of ore in the local titanium deposit makes it possible to use a wasteless technology. The bauxite deposits are large enough to warrant the construction of an aluminium factory.

Another vital problem is to provide good living for builders, miners and oilmen in the rugged northern conditions. A large-scale construction of housing and cultural and everyday services started here. Usinsk, for example, which a year ago was given the status of a town, has tens of thousands of residents. Vorkuta, Khta, Naryan-Mar and other towns will also have living conditions improved.

MONTHLY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REVIEWED

Late August

PM121310 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Sep 85 p 2

[Report by agrometeorologist I. Ivashneva under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorology Center Reports": "The weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Warm weather was recorded in the last 10-day period on the USSR's European territory. Precipitation fell for 1-3 days, and was mainly heavy. Its distribution through the territory and the amount for the 10-day period varied between 1 and 60 mm. The most significant rain was recorded in the Northern and Northwestern regions. The warm and mainly dry weather created favorable conditions for the harvesting work. Seed germination was recorded in fields where winter crops were sown at the start of the 10-day period. In the Northern and Northwestern regions and in the north of the Central, Volgo-Vyatka, and Urals regions, winter grain crops sown in the first half of August tillered, and later-sown crops were in the seedling and third leaf stage.

In the areas where corn is cultivated for grain (excluding western oblasts of the Ukraine), the cobs reached the waxy ripeness stage. In the Central Chernozem region and Rostov Oblast this stage started 7-10 days earlier than normal. In the extreme southern regions of the Ukraine and in Krasnodar Kray the corn is completely ripe.

In most regions of the country's European part withering of the potato haulm has been recorded.

In the Transcaucasus republics moderately warm weather predominated. The average air temperatures were close to average. On the plantations in Azerbaijan the opening of the first bolls was recorded (almost 1 week earlier than average). Around 12 bolls on average per bush formed (2 bolls more than the average taken over many years).

Cool weather was recorded in the farming regions of Siberia and northern Kazakhstan. There were ground frosts in places. Over most of the territory 20-35 mm of rain fell in 2-5 days. In places in Krasnoyarsk Kray, in Irkutsk and Chita Oblasts, in Altay Kray, and in Tomsk Oblast the amount of precipitation that fell was 1.5-3 times more than average and amounted to 40-70 mm.

Early spring grain crops sown at the best time entered the waxy ripeness stage and in places ripened completely. In Kazakhstan the grain reached waxy and complete ripeness. The weather conditions for harvesting were good. On most of the territory potatoes finished flowering. The formation of potato tubers proceeded in optimum conditions.

In the republics of Central Asia and in southern Kazakhstan it was hot in the first half of the 10-day period. Opening of the cotton bolls was under way. At the end of August there were 8-15 bolls on average. In the south of the region preparation of the fields for machine harvesting began selectively. The weather conditions favored defoliation.

Mid-September

PM191159 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 14 Sep 85 p 1

[Report by agrometeorologist T. Ivashneva under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorology Center Reports": "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Warm, dry weather persisted on the greater part of the USSR's European territory at the start of the 10-day period. Then it grew abruptly cooler and rained, with a strong wind in places. Average air temperatures at this time were 2-6 degrees lower than the average. In the Urals, Northern, and Volga-Vyatka regions and in the north of the Volga region, frosts were recorded at night.

Heavy downpours of rain were recorded, mainly in the second half of the 10-day period. They were most significant (30-70 mm) in the western half of the USSR's European territory and in the west of the North Caucasus. In the Northwestern region, the north of the Central region, the Volga-Vyatka and Urals regions, and the north of the Volga region winter grain crops sown before 25 August tillered. Later-sown crops were in the seedling and third-leaf stages. The state of the plants is mainly good. In the fields of the Donetsk-Dnepr and Central Chernozem regions and in the south of central region, seed germination and shoot emergence are being recorded.

In Moldavia, the southern Ukraine, and the North Caucasus, the corn is fully ripe. On the rest of the territory where corn is cultivated for grain the cobs have reached the waxy ripeness stage. In the Central, Central Chernozem, and Volga regions the harvesting of corn for silage has started.

The weather in the Transcaucasus republics was mainly warm and dry and favorable for harvesting work. Only at the end of the 10-day period did it become somewhat cooler and rainy.

The farming in the western regions of Siberia and Kazakhstan was mainly cool with frosts. The average air temperatures for the 10-day period were 1-5 degrees lower than average. Most precipitation (30-70 mm) fell in Kemerovo and Irkutsk Oblasts, in Altay and Krasnodar Krays, and in southern Buryatia.

In the first half of the 10-day period, warm weather persisted in the republics of Central Asia and maximum air temperatures were 28-37 degrees, and as much as 40 degrees in places in Turkmenia. Then it became cooler. Over the greater part of the territory it was dry, which assisted the opening of cotton bolls and helped to ripen them. Cotton picking was under way everywhere and defoliation of the crops continued.

Early October

PM150954 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 13 Oct 85 p 5

["USSR Hydrometeorological Center Report" by agrometeorologist L. Litvinenko: "Weather and Crops"]

[Text] The weather over most of the country's European territory was warm during the first 10 days in October. The average temperature was 2-6 degrees higher than the annual average. In the North Caucasus region and Crimea Oblast it was close to or somewhat lower than usual.

Daytime temperatures reached 20-25 degrees to the west and south of a line linking Riga, Pskov, Gomel, and Astrakhan, and 14-19 degrees in other parts of the territory.

The weather remained cool in the Urals region. The average temperature during the 10 days reached 1-4 degrees.

There was either no precipitation in most parts of the Ukraine and North Caucasus or, where it occurred, it did not exceed 5 millimeters over 1-2 days. Rainfall over the remainder of the territory reached 11-25 millimeters. The weather remained rainy in the Urals region.

The warm weather had a favorable effect on the rooting and tillering of winter grain crops.

Temperatures dropped in the crop farming regions of Kazakhstan and Western Siberia. During the 10-day period the average temperature in most regions was lower than usual, but it was higher than usual in the southern part of the territory.

Winter grain crops in Western Siberia are at the tillering stage of growth, and the height of plants has reached 15-25 centimeters.

The weather in the Central Asian republics remained warm and dry at the start of the 10-day period, but later on temperatures fell sharply. Frost was recorded in some regions of Kirghizia at night. For the 10-day period as a whole the average temperature was 1-2 degrees lower than usual. Kirghizia and Tashkent Oblast recorded 5-25 millimeters of rain over a 3-day period, and in places up to '0-60 millimeters.

The cooler weather has delayed the opening of cotton bolls. By 10 October, however, most oblasts had reported 7-10 bolls opening, while Surkhan-Darya, Ashkhabad, Mari, Kurgan-Tyube, and Kulyab Oblasts reported 11-14 bolls opening. This is close to the annual average.

Average temperatures in the far east during the 10-day period were higher than the annual average. The tillering of rye continued.

AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR 10-12 OCTOBER REPORTED

LD130635 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow domestic service and Moscow television service in Russian on 10-12 October. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

10 October

The final tons of grain in this year's plan were today dispatched to Kurgan Oblast elevators. State granaries have received 1.5 million metric tons of grain here. (0700 GMT)

Saratov Oblast: Three million hectares of land has been plowed so far. Three-quarters of the land allotted for spring crops has thus been prepared. (0700 GMT)

RSFSR sowing news: Plowing of fallow land is going better than last year in Saratov Oblast -- three-quarters of the allocated land has been prepared for spring crops. Sugar beet has been harvested on over 800,000 hectares in the RSFSR, 5.4 percent of the crop area.

At the same time a considerable interruption has been noted in many rayons between harvesting and transportation of the harvest. Mass machine-harvesting of cotton started today in Khirghiziya. Although bad weather delayed the start of the harvest by almost 2 weeks, it is planned to complete it within the usual time. (1130 GMT)

Kurgan Oblast has fulfilled the grain sales annual plan. For the first time almost half of the wheat procured is of strong varieties. (1200 GMT)

Altay Kray: The potato harvest has been completed. A good harvest has been grown. (1200 GMT)

Harvesting of seed cotton has begun in Kirghizia. (2230 GMT)

11 October

Autumn ploughing has been completed on 8 million hectares in Kazakhstan. This is more than 40 percent of the planned area. (0600 GMT)

Winter crops cultivated using intensive technology occupy 24,000 hectares in Kiev Oblast. (1300 GMT)

12 October

The last combines have finished harvesting ear crops on the upper slopes of the Tyan-Shan: In Naryn Oblast, crops are cultivated at an altitude of over 2,500 m above sea level and ripen very late. About 500,000 hectares was sown to ear crops throughout Kirgiziya this year; 27 quintals per hectare were threshed, which is more than last year. Sowing of winter ear crops is now under way. (0304 GMT)

Farmers of Azerbaijan, Belorussia, the republics of the Soviet Baltic region, and Armenia have completed sales of grain to the state in an organized fashion. Deliveries of grain to elevators are continuing to Siberia. However, the rates of this important work there are inadequate, particularly in Altay, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and in the Chita, Novosibirsk and other oblasts. Bread grain procurement has been well organized in Kazakhstan in Pavlodarskaya, Dzhambul'skaya, Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya, and Kyzyl-Ordinskaya Oblasts, but here and there in the republic the flow of grain has unjustifiably slowed down; transport is not working efficiently everywhere; lines form at the gates to elevators. Specialists of the Ministry of Procurements consider that possibilities for raising bread grain procurement rates exist and they must be used. (0200 GMT)

Omsk grain growers have delivered 1 million tons of hard and strong wheat to state granaries. (0500 GMT)

To date over 3.5 million metric tons of high-quality cotton has been delivered in Uzbekistan. (0500 GMT)

Tajik farmers are nearing the end of fodder laying-in: up to date over 1.5 million metric tons of coarse fodders have been laid in, over 99 percent of the annual targets. (0500 GMT)

Kuban farms have doubled the area given over to winter grain crops farmed intensively; at present farms are sowing wheat and barley at fast rates. (0700 GMT)

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Altay machine operators have carried out autumn plowing on 3 million hectares. Tselinograd Oblast machine operators have carried out the same work on the first million hectares. (1400 GMT)

The specialized farms of the Samarkand Region of Uzbekistan are completing the stocking up of seed material of a new sort of corn -- (Ulekbak). About 5,000 metric tons of excellent grain have been obtained from 1,700 hectares. There is enough of it to sow half of the overall corn area in the republic next year. (2104 GMT)

CSA RELEASES AGRICULTURAL FIGURES

Grain Reports

LD111506 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0004 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] According to Central Statistical Administration statistics, grain and bean crops excluding corn had been cut by 8 October on an area of 107.7 million hectares, and threshed on 107 million hectares. Altay farmers have fulfilled their annual obligations for sale of strong and hard wheat to the state. A great deal depends now in potato plantings upon correct selection of technology. There are gains in those places where a method especially well adapted to local conditions is chosen. The harvesting rate is more rapid than last year on many cotton-growing farms; however, reserves are far from everywhere exhausted. Fodder procurement is continuing.

Winter Sowing Progress

LD111519 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] The foundations for the next harvest are continuing to be laid on collective and state farms throughout the country. The USSR CSA [Central Statistical Administration] has reported that winter crops have been sown on 34 million hectares. Sowing is currently being done in the very sought of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, the Transcaucasian republics and Central Asia. Compared to last year the scale of winter crop cultivation using intensive technology has been much increased, including crops with a continuous technological process. However, in a number of farms in the southern rayons, introduction of intensive technology is being held up by the absence of mineral fertilizers which have not been delivered on time by the chemical industry. Over one-third of all fallow remains for machine operators to plow; the rate of this work has increased somewhat over the last week. Farms in Tatariya and Orenburg Oblast have fulfilled the plowing plan; soil preparation for the next harvest is being carried out perceptibly more actively in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Siberia. For the time being, however, autumn plowing is proceeding slowly in Stavropol Kray, Smolensk and Astrakhan Oblasts.

SPACE EXPLORATION SATELLITE LAUNCHED

LD161717 Moscow Tass in English 1702 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow October 16 Tass-- The Soviet Union today launched an artificial earth satellite carries scientific equipment designated to continue space exploration.

The satellite was put into an orbit with the following parameters: Initial period of revolution--89.3 minutes; Maximum distance from the earth's surface (perigee) -- 216 Kilometers; minimum distance from the earth's surface (perigee) -- 216 kilometres; inclination of the orbit -- 70.4 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

SITUATION IMPROVES IN EARTHQUAKE AREA

LD170904 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] It is reported that life is gradually returning to normal in Kayrakkum, the city in Soviet Tajikistan which was in epicenter [as heard] of a recent devastating eight-point earthquake. By preliminary estimates, 8,000 of the city's 15,000 residents have remained homeless, yet none of them has been left in trouble. Homes are being built fast and trucks with food, medicine, and prefabricated housing parts keep coming to Kayrakkum.